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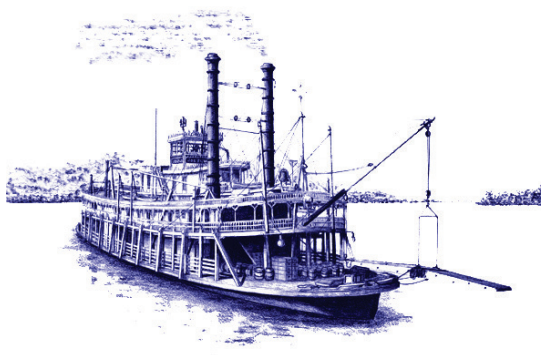


SWITZERLAND BATTLES FOREST PARK DOWN TO THE WIRE IN 58-53 LOSS ***PAGE B1***

THE MADISON COURIER

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024 | *Serving the Courier area since 1837* | NEWSSTAND • $1.25

General Assembly adopts innkeeper's tax hike

Measure still needs County Council OK

BY BOB DEMAREE

The Indiana General Assembly on Friday's last day of the 2024 session adopted legislation that will allow Jefferson County to increase its innkeeper's tax.

Senate Bill 238 authorizes Jefferson County to impose its innkeeper's tax at a rate of 8% instead of 5% under current law. Even with passage by the Indiana General Assembly, the bill will still need approval by Gov. Eric Holcomb plus adoption by the Jefferson County Council.

The innkeeper's tax increase was proposed by the Jefferson County Board of Tourism (JCBT) two years ago as a means to better fund tourism initiatives in the county, and finally brought before the Indiana General Assembly for consideration this year.

The tax, a user fee that is levied on all rooms in hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, Airbnbs and other forms of short term lodging, was first established for Jefferson County in 1981 at 4% and later increased to 5% in 1987 with no changes in the last 36 years other than growth in the tourism industry.

"Let's be clear, this is not a tax on residents of Jefferson County, JCBT President Trevor Crafton said. "This is a user fee for those who have heard about, seen photos, and want to visit this postcard town we call home. Each county in the state of Indiana has an innkeeper's tax. This money is generated by visitors spending the night. It is each county's responsibility to reinvest it back into their own county therefore attracting more visitors. It's a cycle to improve the community. Jefferson County has not increased its innkeeper's tax in over 30 years. Our community is significantly different now than it was 30 years ago."

SEE **TAX/PAGE A2**

Mayor emphasizes partnerships in address

Announces Project 2424

BY BOB DEMAREE

With optimism for Madison's future, Mayor Bob Courtney on Thursday presented his fourth State of the City address and the first of his second term in office since being reelected in November.

"Madison is not just a city but a living testament to our shared history and collective future," Courtney told the crowd gathered for the third consecutive year at the Fairfield Inn and Suites. "Today, I want to discuss the crucial role of investment, particularly through public-private partnerships, in preserving and enhancing the beauty, safety, and cleanliness of Madison."

Photos by Bob Demaree

Part of the crowd at Thursday's State of City address given by Madison Mayor Bob Courtney at the Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott.

Madison Mayor Bob Courtney gave his State of the City address Thursday, introducing Project 2424 representing his 24 key initiatives this year. "The journey toward a more beautiful and thriving Madison requires a collective effort," said Courtney. "Public-private partnerships serve as the catalyst for positive change, bringing together the strengths of both sectors to create a thriving community. Investment is the currency that helps our community grow."

Courtney was elected in the 2019 general election but has served as Mayor since Oct. 14, 2019, after being appointed through a Republican party caucus following the unexpected death of Mayor Damon Welch. He didn't give his first State of the City address until 2021, delayed by the arrival of the COVID pandemic in March of 2020.

On Thursday, Courtney cited that achievements in 2023 were "correlated to the success of everybody in our community, and hundreds of volunteers and organizations. The theme about tonight is about the partnerships. That is truly what has made a difference during my four-and-one-half years as mayor."

He cited the success of the opening of the Shoppes at Sunrise Crossing commercial development that has seen almost 500,000 visits in the first six months of operation. He also noted that more than 8.4 miles of roads were paved with 20 blocks of new sidewalks. "We have made great strides toward making Madison a safer community for all modes of travel," he said.

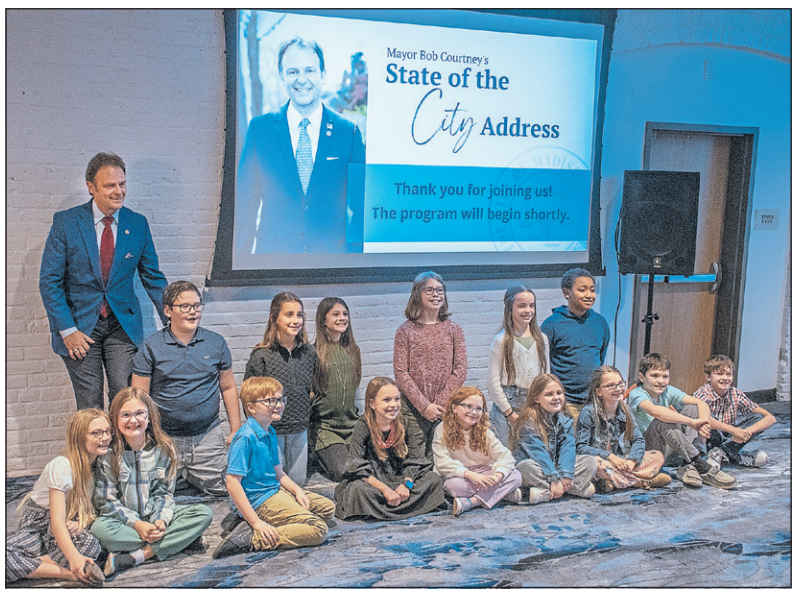
Both Gaines Park and Oak Hill Park — and the Oak Hill neighborhood — had renovations completed and dilapidated structures were improved through the downtown historic district.

"I could not be prouder of our accomplishments in beautifying our city. Last year, over $4.4 million of mostly private capital was invested through our PACE program, addressing blight and bringing dilapidated and dangerous structures back to life," he said.

While celebrating what he called "a great 2023" in the city, he said "2024 is going to be phenomenal" because "we will be completing many significant projects this year that are already underway. We will be beginning new initiatives for 2024 and we will constantly be laying the groundwork for the years to come. Some of the investments we make in the community take five to 10 years to fruition. It's a lot of work and it's a lot of planning, but that investment in planning will also create phenomenal results. Our momentum is very strong."

Courtney went on to cite several key initiatives residents can expect in 2024, including:

- The opening of the Crystal Beach Aquatic Park.
- The opening of the new DG Market that will return a grocery to downtown Madison.
- Completion of the $13 million water infrastructure improvement project.
- The launching of a $1.7 million solid waste Transfer Station Operations (TSO) modernization plan.
- Construction of a $12 million Clifty Drive project in partnership with Indiana Department of Transportation that will provide sidewalks, improved stormwater management and better traffic safety.
- Beginning construction on the $20 million Phase One of Residences at Sunrise Crossing to address the city's critical housing shortage.
- Restoration of the Ohio Theatre facade and marquee in partnership with Friends of the Ohio Theatre Inc.
- Planning for construction of a new runway at the Madison Municipal Airport.
- Beginning work on the Hanover-Madison Connector Trail.
- Celebrating Madison's industrial, architectural and underground railroad history at Costigan Park along the riverfront.
- Building new streets and sidewalks in the arts and entertainment corridor.
- Advancing improvements at Damon Welch Park on Madison's riverfront.
- Pursuing a permanent stage at Bicentennial Park to advance the city's brand as Indiana's Music City.
- Working with the Riverfront Development Committee for Phase Three of the Super Overlook project.
- Working on Phase Two of the gateway project at the Milton-Madison bridge that includes illuminating the bridge and installation of the River's Edge sculpture.
- Intensifying focus on Madison's need for more housing.



Madison Mayor Bob Courtney takes a photograph with the Mayor's Eagles prior to his State of the City address on Thursday. Mayor's Eagles, a class of fourth graders from Lydia Middleton Elementary School, led the Pledge of Allegiance to open the event.

Norli Heitz (left), president of Lydia Middleton's Mayor's Eagles, introduced Madison Mayor Bob Courtney at Thursday's State of the City address.

Courtney also announced a new mega-initiative, Project 2424, representing 24 key initiatives this year that he said amounts to two per month.

One of those initiatives involves a new ordinance he will propose to City Council to create a registration process for vacant and abandoned properties. "Our goal is not to punish property owners but to strongly encourage them to maintain their properties at a level that benefits the majority of our community who are following well-established property maintenance standards," Courtney said.

SEE **MAYOR/PAGE A7**

Announcement on READI allocations to regions set for April 11

BY BOB DEMAREE

The five-county Our Southern Indiana Regional Development Authority submitted its READI 2.0 request to the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) last month, and the board of directors is now waiting to hear if they will receive the maximum $75 million that regions can qualify to invest in the next round of projects.

The READI (Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative) allocation announcements by the IEDC will be coming Thursday, April 11, said Cory Cochran at Friday's OurSIRDA meeting at Ivy Tech Community College in Sellersburg. The state has set aside $500 million in funding to be divided among 15 regions in Indiana.

Once OurSIRDA knows the amount of the READI allocation it will receive, the board will issue a formal RFP (Request for Proposal) to the communities to complete their grant applications with details about their projects to be returned within 60 days, said Cochran, the executive director of River Hills Economic Development District Regional Planning Commission who was hired by the region to oversee the READI process. After that, the projects will be scored and ranked by the region, and then work with the IEDC to determine funding amounts for projects.

SEE **REGIONS/PAGE A2**

66 High 47 Low

Details, Page A2

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Danny Adler
Lloyd Arbuckle
Tonya Dilger
Ernest Chase
Darrell Cooley
Larry Green
James Heimbach
Donald Henderson
Lorenzo Hicks
Joseph Johnson
Kearney Johnson
Golda Jones
Stephen Kinman
Patricia Norris
Ruth Potter
Lawrence Sherbahn
Louretta Thompson
Maridell Waymire
Rocky Webb
Howard Williams

8 51633 00100 7

NEWS OF RECORD

JEFFERSON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER

LODGINGS

March 7, 2024

- Brandi Smith Henderson, 42, Slidell, Louisiana, on Jefferson County arrest warrants (resisting arrest and theft). Bond $2,000 cash.
- Felicia Diane Wheat, 34, Madison, for Theft and Criminal Trespass, both Class A misdemeanors. No bond.

March 8, 2024

- Ryan Asher, 20, address not available, for Sexual Battery, a Level 6 felony; Battery and Possession of Marijuana, both Class B misdemeanors; Minor in Possession of Alcohol and Possession of Paraphernalia, both Class C misdemeanors. No bond.
- Autumn L. Freiburger, 31, Plainfield, Indiana, on a Jefferson County bench warrant. Bond $25,000 cash.

March 9, 2024

- Connor Aaron Deeg, 25, Louisville, for Battery, a Class A misdemeanor. No bond.
- Maria Elaine Schuster, 26, Madison, for Resisting Law Enforcement, a Class A misdemeanor; and Public Intoxication by Alcohol/Drugs and Disorderly Conduct, both Class B misdemeanors. No bond.

March 10, 2024

- Michael A. Gay, 53, Madison, on a Jefferson County arrest warrant. Bond $2,500 cash.

March 11, 2024

- Christi Rose Tharp, 20, Scottsburg, Indiana, for Possession of Methamphetamine and Unlawful Possession or Use of a Legend Drug, both Level 6 felonies; and Possession of Paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor. Bond $1,000 cash.
- Skylar R. Humphrey, 19, address not available, for Theft-Shoplifting Value $750 to $50,000, a Level 6 felony. Released on own recognizance.

JEFFERSON COUNTY SUPERIOR & CIRCUIT COURT

SENTENCINGS

March 7, 2024

- Wesley Leon Smith, 40, Pattonville, Texas, to an amended charge of Public Intoxication, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 4 days jail, served, plus $239 in fees and court costs.
- Darlene M. Bare, 53, Madison, for Possession of Marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 4 days served and 176 days suspended to supervised probation; and Operating While Intoxicated, a Class C misdemeanor. Sentenced to 60 days jail with credit for 4 days served and 76 days suspended to supervised probation, concurrent, plus $939.50 in fees and court costs.
- Michella Ann Davis, 51, Madison, for Public Intoxication, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 4 days jail, served, plus $239 in fees and court costs.
- Matthew Alan Marshall, NA, New Albany, Indiana, for Disorderly Conduct, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 4 days jail, served, with fees and court costs waived.
- Matthew Alan Marshall, NA, New Albany, Indiana, for Disorderly Conduct, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 180 days jail with credit for 128 days served and 52 days suspended to 237 days supervised probation.
- Joshua William Torrance, 38, Madison, for Driving While Suspended, a Class A misdemeanor. Sentenced to 365 days jail with credit for 28 days served and 337 days suspended to supervised probation plus $339.50 in fees and court costs.
- Robert Williams Lewis Gates, 51, Madison, for Pubic Intoxication, a Class B misdemeanor. Sentenced to 96 days jail, served, plus $239 in fees and court costs.

LOTTERY

INDIANA

Hoosier Lotto: 6-18-28-31-43-46 (2/9). Next Estimated Jackpot: $6.3 million. Next Drawing (3/13).

Cash Five: 2-19-31-33-44 (3/10)

Cash 4 Life: 5-13-17-42-43 CB: 4 (3/10)

KENTUCKY

Cash Ball: 1-3-29-35 CB 5 (3/10)

Kentucky 5 Extra: 13-17-21-29-35 (3/10)

Lucky For Life: 1-6-26-36-47 LB: 4 (3/10)

MEGAMILLIONS: 19-20-22-47-58 MB: 1, MP 3 (3/8). Next Jackpot: $735 million. Next Drawing (3/12)

POWERBALL: 30-36-49-52-63 PB: 16, PP 5 (3/9). Next Estimated Jackpot: $532 million. Next Drawing (3/11)

POWERBALL DOUBLE PLAY: 41-43-49-55-67 PB: 20 (3/9). Next Estimated Jackpot: Up to $10 million. Next Drawing (3/11)

THE MADISON COURIER

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
2:30 p.m. Friday for Tuesday issue
Noon Monday for Thursday issue
Noon Thursday for Saturday issue

VOL. 224 • ISSUE NO. 21

County gives nuisance property owner deadline to pay up, clean up

BY BOB DEMAREE
AND MARK CAMPBELL

In an effort to avoid more costly litigation and expedite cleanup of a Lancaster Township site that the Jefferson County enforcement officer and Plan Commission, have been battling with for years, property owner Jeffrey O'Dell Gilstrap will not face fines if he continues to show progress at his property located at 6089 North State Road 7.

More than $25,000 in fines were waived on the nuisance property last Tuesday by the Jefferson County Plan Commission as board members worked towards a resolution that gets the site cleaned up this spring while allowing Gilstrap to retain ownership.

The county's ongoing nuisance complaint on the property and Gilstrap dates back to 2017. County building inspector Josh Cline reported in September 2018 that there were 22 inoperable vehicles, two unlicensed campers and mounds of tires stored on the property. In a followup in August 2021, Cline said there were now 25 vehicles, an inoperable lawn mower, motorcycles and piles of trash at the site.

The county eventually took legal action against Gilstrap and a court order was issued on Dec. 17, 2019, for Gilstrap to clean up the property or face fines.

A $25 per day fine was imposed on the property totaling $25,550 for the 1,021 days between March 2020 and December 2022. Gilstrap also incurred other costs totaling $3,339.33 from the county's cleanup costs and attorney fees. Gilstrap will not have to pay the fine, but he must still pay the cleanup costs, attorney fees and any additional costs for cleaning up the site and do that in a timely fashion.

"It's been a long running problem that's been there six or seven years now," said Plan Commission President Warren Auxier. "I was here when we first met with you. It has been a constant ongoing situation. We had worked with you a couple of years before we filed the lawsuit, but didn't get any action."

Gilstrap was also past due on his property taxes for the site and in September of last year the property went up for tax sale but did not sell. Gilstrap has since paid the taxes he owed on the property but he still owes the county's cleanup costs and legal fees. The county could have still opted to sell the property at a Commissioners sale to help cover the $3,339.33 Gilstrap owes.

Cline came before the Jefferson County Commissioners on Thursday to ask how they would like him to proceed with the complaint — whether to go ahead with the Commissioners sale or give Gilstrap an opportunity to pay back the $3,339.33 — and how many days to do that —as well as continue to clean up the property as mandated by the court.

"This has been going on for a number of years and we don't want to continue to push this down the road," Commissioner David Bramer said, asking Gilstrap if he was prepared to pay what he owed to the county on Thursday.

"I just need a few days," Gilstrap said. "I've got part of it. It's going to break me, but it's going to happen."

Cline recommended the county give Gilstrap two weeks to make payment and Gilstrap said that he could possibly pay sooner. In the end the Commissioners agreed that Gilstrap could pay early but that they expected to see some payment by or at their next meeting on March 21.

Meanwhile, the property remains in violation. Cline showed photos of the site and the current condition at the Plan Commission meeting. Board member David Ferguson told Gilstrap, "It has improved but you've got a long way to go."

"I do agree there's been significant improvement made in the property," added Auxier. However, Auxier noted that he also sees evidence of "new stuff coming in. That's been the problem we've had all along. There is now less junk but there was more junk that wasn't allowed to be there."

Ferguson suggested a plan for clean-up in which "the worst gets taken care of first, and we say what the worst is," adding he knows that's up to the Commissioners to decide. But what's most imperative is the cleanup. "I don't want him to lose his property but I don't want to kick the can down the road."

Speaking at the Commissioners meeting, Bramer noted that the fines were being forgiven as a way to get Gilstrap to finish

SEE **OWNER/PAGE A8**

TAX

FROM **PAGE A1**

The legislation was sponsored by State Sen. Randy Maxwell, who represents Jefferson County along with Dearborn, Ohio, Scott and Switzerland counties along with southern Jennings County.

Although introduced initially as Jefferson County legislation, the final version of the bill also allows innkeeper's tax increases in Elkhart and Knox counties.

When the legislation initially passed the Senate, it was only for Jefferson County to increase its innkeeper's tax and 38-11 on Jan. 29. The legislation then needed approval by the House of Representatives, which resulted in the addition of Elkhart, Howard and Knox counties to adopt innkeeper's tax increases, passing 67-23 on Feb. 28.

The bill then needed to go to a Senate conference committee where Howard County was eventually removed from the legislation with Senate Majority Leader Chris Garten noting the Howard County language "was outside for the scope of only innkeeper's tax and so in conjunction with Senator (Travis) Holdman, that Howard County language has been removed."

On Thursday, Senate Bill 238 passed the House 75-21 and on Friday it passed the Senate 41-7.

Just as Jefferson County is permitted to raise the county innkeeper's tax to 8%, both Elkhart and Knox counties are now allowed to raise their innkeeper's tax to 8%. Elkhart County's current innkeeper's tax is 5% while Knox County's innkeeper's tax is 6%.

As the bill progressed through the Indiana General Assembly, there were more legislators whose names were attached to the bill. Garten was added as a second author on Jan. 29 with State Rep. Alex Zimmerman being named House sponsor. Later, Michael Karickhoff, Joanna King and Doug Miller were added as House sponsors.

Zimmerman, speaking at last week's Madison City Council meeting, emphasized that the legislation merely authorizes Jefferson County Council to increase the innkeeper's tax, and that the County Council will make the final decision on whether that happens. "It's not really a tax, I want to emphasize that, it's a user's fee," he said.

Zimmerman said that if County Council increases the innkeeper's tax to 8%, "the estimate is that it would generate at least a half-a-million dollars in additional revenue starting in 2025. That's exciting for economic development, not just in the city of Madison, but in Jefferson County as a whole."

"This money will improve our visitor experience, provide more jobs to local residents and support our small businesses," Crafton said. "It's fun to be apart of a community that appreciates tradition while supports improvement."

Visit Madison Inc. (VMI) Executive Director Andrew Forrester said thanked the lawmakers for their support of the community's tourism industry.

"I'm grateful to Senator Maxwell and Representative Zimmerman for carrying this legislation through this year, and to the Indiana General Assembly for recognizing the importance of giving our local leaders the ability to raise additional funding," Forrester said. "It is exciting to think about the additional investments that can be made in our tourism infrastructure and marketing with additional dollars, and I look forward to discussing that with the Jefferson County Council and Jefferson County Board of Tourism."

REGIONS

FROM **PAGE A1**

The region has already begun hearing project presentations. Last Thursday, the OurSIRDA board visited Washington County to hear project presentations. The remainder of the county visits are Floyd County, March 22; Jefferson County, April 3; Scott County, April 4; and Clark County, April 10.

In addition to the $500 million in READI funds that will be allocated to regions throughout the state, there is also an additional $250 million that will be available through a Lilly Endowment Grant. Cochran said the Lilly dollars have been specifically set aside for $185 million to be used directly on blight remediation and redevelopment and $65 million set aside for arts and culture projects.

Cochran said the IEDC will expect each region to recommend eight projects — four for blight remediation and redevelopment and four for arts and culture — to be submitted for the Lilly Endowment Grant consideration.

"The conversation (about blight dollars) I've had with the IEDC about the Eli Lilly dollars is to think region and think big," said Cochran, noting the goal is toward bigger impact projects than a blighted house or parcel of land. "They're looking for 10 houses on one street or they're looking for a large industrial site that could be redeveloped into housing or something else."

In other business, the board:

- Heard a presentation from Charlestown Mayor Treva Hodges on the $40 million Charlestown Wastewater Treatment Plant project. The project was initially awarded $5 million in READI funds, but later received $2.4 million in reallocated funds and $2.5 million in additional funds from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. The additional funds were provided because of the project's high cost and relevance to the River Ridge Commerce Center. "One of the things this plant has done is it offered us the opportunity to leverage the private investment that is surrounding the River Ridge Commerce Center" on the north side where there are buildings that have been vacant for a long time that created blight. "We want to be able to clean up that corridor, and now we can do that because the development is coming, thanks to this investment."
- Gave final approval for a $75,000 comprehensive planning project for Washington County that had received IEDC approval. The funds are from part of what had been allocated for a canceled project for a Southern Indiana Youth Complex in Scott County.
- Provided official approval of the READI application that OurSIRDA submitted to the IEDC on Feb. 16.

WEATHER

Sunrise: 7:54 a.m.
Sunset: 7:47 p.m.
Temperature: High 59, Low 27, Mean 43.0, Excess 2.8
Precipitation since last published: .62
Precipitation, March 2024: 1.18
Precipitation, 2024: 8.62
Barometer: 30.20, Rising
River Level at Clifty Creek: 433.12, Rising
Forecast: Wednesday: Partly cloudy High 69/Low 53; Thursday: Showers High 73/Low 56; Friday: Rain/Thunder High 62/Low 42.

BIRTHDAYS

Editor's Note: Got a birthday or anniversary coming up? Send name, date and number of years (optional) to zelda@madisoncourier.com or call 812-265-3641. Please leave your name and phone number in case we have followup questions.

MARCH 12
Dan Sachleben
Pam Smith

MARCH 13
Paulina Giltner
Rosie Glasgow — 8

MARCH 14
Susan Sparks

MARCH 17
Jenny Jones

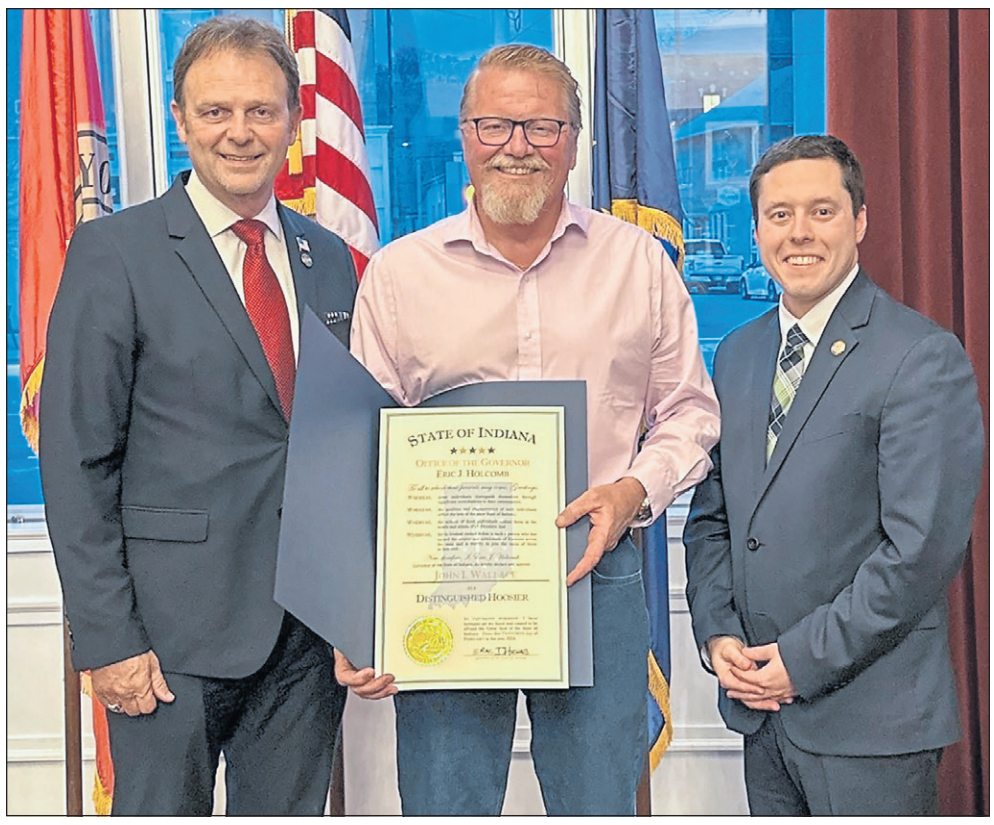
MARCH 20
Dan Dattilo
Rebecca
Jean Lathrem — 36

MARCH 21
Vickie Wynn-Demaree

MARCH 22
Kevin Haworth
Chris Taylor

MARCH 23
Denise Brierly

MARCH 24
Jace Hafer — 12



F. Reports, Recommendations, other business from standing/select committees of the city council
G. Reports of city officials
H. Bills on third reading
L. Bills on second reading

Handout

Above left: State Rep. Alex Zimmerman (right) presented retiring Madison Police Chief John Wallace the Distinguished Hoosier Award from Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb at last week's Madison City Council meeting. Wallace and Madison Police Officers Jeremey Perkins and Dan "D. J." Stephan were recognized at the meeting with Perkins and Stephan receiving American flags that have flown over Madison City Hall and keys to the city from Mayor Bob Courtney (left). **Above right:** Retiring Madison Police Major Jeremey Perkins (left), recently retired Madison Police Chief John Wallace (center) and retired MPD Captain Dan "D. J." Stephan were recognized at last Tuesday's Madison City Council meeting for their long service to the city with the department's Legends Award given by their fellow officers. The three officers have nearly 100 years of combined service to Madison Police Department.

Madison recognizes 3 veteran police officers for service

BY MARK CAMPBELL

Three long-serving Madison Police Department officers were recognized at last Tuesday's Madison City Council meeting — two of them retiring and the third retired from full-time duty but still serving part-time — with almost 100 years of law enforcement combined.

State Rep. Alex Zimmerman presented recently retired Madison Police Chief John Wallace the Distinguished Hoosier Award for his 37 years of service in law enforcement in a ceremony that also recognized retiring Deputy Chief Jeremey Perkins with 22 years service and Patrolman Dan "D.J." Stephan, who retired as a captain with 45 years service, but continues to work part-time for MPD as a patrol officer.

"John dedicated his career to serving and protecting our local communities, and we're incredibly grateful for his and his family's sacrifices all along the way," said Zimmerman, a member of the House Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee. "While it is a tremendous loss to not have him as part of our law enforcement team, I wish him and his family nothing but the best moving forward."

Wallace's career also includes time as a patrol officer, detective, Jefferson County Sheriff and school resource officer before becoming Madison's Police Chief. He currently serves as president of the Madison Consolidated Schools Board of Trustees. The Distinguished Hoosier Award is one of the highest awards given to Indiana citizens by the governor and is awarded to those who "distinguish themselves by significant contributions to their communities, and whose qualities and actions endear them in the hearts and minds of Hoosiers."

"I don't really miss the phone calls but I do miss the citizens and the guys and gals at our department," said Wallace. "I'm a very grateful man and very appreciative for the career I've had.

"Since retiring I'm letting my hair grow out and I'm a bit on the wild side," Wallace joked about his noticeably longer hair and goatee.

Wallace along with Perkins and Stephan also received Madison Police Department's Legend Award, a recognition presented by their fellow officers.

"These three officers have almost 100 years combined service to the city of Madison, " said MPD Chief Shawn Scudder. "They have all three showed great leadership."

Mayor Bob Courtney presented new retirees Wallace and Perkins with a flag that had flown over Madison City Hall and a ceremonial key to the city. Stephan initially retired in 2021.

Hanover resident cries foul over nuisance fowl on Hickory Drive

BY BOB DEMAREE

A complaint from one year ago about a Hickory Drive property owner with several ducks remains unresolved, and a neighbor was back before Hanover Town Council last week asking for help in the matter.

Chris Hobbs was at the Feb. 21, 2023 town council meeting to complain that a neighbor was raising approximately 20 ducks. He was back before the council on Tuesday, March 5, citing that "the issue has not been resolved. It has gotten worse. They now have chickens as well as ducks. This last Saturday, I had to chase them out of my yard six times. It's an issue causing my wife and I a lot of stress, and I can't stand living next to it."

Hobbs said he and his wife have owned their home for 25 years. "I don't know what recourse we have to do anything about it. Even if we were to try to move away," he anticipates it would be difficult to sell the home with the ducks and chickens ranging free. "I feel stuck living next to that."

Hanover Town Council President Debbie Kroger introduced Hobbs to Don Williams, the town's new enforcement officer who was hired last month, noting the town hasn't had an enforcement officer since the board voted to terminate Rick Schnebelt in June of last year.

Williams discussed the issue with Hobbs and said he will look into the town's zoning ordinances to determine what can be done.

The meeting was Williams' first town council session since being appointed as enforcement officer, a part-time position set at 20 to 24 hours per week.

Williams noted that he is "new on the job but I'm already delving into the ordinances." He said he will work to build cases for the town so it has what it needs for processing whatever action must be taken. He added that he will build on his experience as a former police officer by handling regulations on town ordinances "just like I would any other case, so we can try to resolve some of these issues."

IN OTHER BUSINESS, THE COUNCIL

• Approved $21,095 for security cameras in Hanover Community Park to be purchased from Northside Security Inc. — $4,232 for the parking lot and shelter house, $5,359 at the amphitheater, $4,006 on ballpark Field 1 and $7,498 on walkways that includes more than 1,000 feet of lines. The cameras are being financed by American Rescue Plan funds that the town must spend by the end of year.

• Approved $4,650 for installation of new fencing for ballpark Field 2 in the outfield that will be paid with funds donated by the town's co-ed softball league. League Director Scott Davidson said U.S. Premier Tube Mills will also provide some financial support for the project.

• Approved $6,828 for a change order for aluminum grading at the wastewater plant as part of the town's sewer project with Hanover College, pending availability from contingency funds.

• Reported that New Hope Service, which manages the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program that uses space at the Hanover Community Building, has agreed to an $1,800 lease for 2024. Clerk-treasurer Coby Cloud said the agreement was delivered to his office Tuesday morning.

• Approved a $2,500 flat fee with Lewis Wagner Attorneys to review the town's employee handbook updates. "I thought it more appropriate to give it to folks that are more familiar with the employment side of things," said town attorney Devon Sharpe. "I would recommend doing this, it's such a specialty, and the way employment laws are anymore, I think it's important."

• The town needs to reimburse the Indiana Department of Transportation $289,329.23 left over from the town's Community Crossing Matching Grant (CCMG) paving project for October, November, Sharp and Glad streets in order to receive future CCMG funding. Kroger said while they don't like having to send the money back, the money can only used for what's defined in the project.

• Agreed to increase the town's ACH (Automated Clearing House) transfer amount to $62,000 — up from $37,000 previously — for payroll and bonds payment. Sharpe said banks are encouraging wired transfers, rather than checks, because it decreases fraud.

• Approved the town's park committee with Don Server named the chair. Committee members, who will be named by the chair, will participate in park operations. The committee will only be able to make purchases up to $500 and must report to the park board, which is the same as the town council. Council members Tim Buxton and Ben Sommer were named liaisons to the park committee.

• Approved contracting with Jacobi, Toombs and Lanz for an on-call professional service agreement not to exceed $5,000 in association for assistance in planning for a proposed Three Bend subdivision near Thornton Road.

• Approved $3,000 for a water audit with Wessler Engineer. Kroger noted the water audit is required to be done every three years.

• Town Marshal Shane Caldwell provided Hanover police statistics for February with 279 calls of service, 19 arrests and 160 total traffic stops. "We will continue to work hard and keep our community engaged and protected," he said.

Indiana lawmakers pass bill defining antisemitism, with compromises

BY ISABELLA VOLMERT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana lawmakers came to a compromise Friday to pass a bill defining antisemitism in state education code.

The bill — meant to address antisemitism on college campuses — stalled this month amid persistent disagreement between lawmakers in the legislative session's final days. The final version accepted by both the House and Senate chambers made concessions in language that was opposed by critics of Israel.

Indiana House Republicans passed House Bill 1002 two months ago after listing it among their five priorities for the 2024 session. The legislation would broadly define antisemitism as religious discrimination, claiming it would "provide educational opportunities free of religious discrimination."

This is the second time the House has tried to pass the legislation, but an identical bill died last year after failing to reach a committee hearing in the state Senate. The legislation rose to new importance this session in light of the ongoing Israel-Hamas war.

The House bill used the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) working definition of antisemitism, and explicitly included "contemporary examples of antisemitism" provided by the alliance, which make references to Israel. These have been adopted by the U.S. Department of State.

State senators, however, passed an amended version of the bill Tuesday that removed language opposed by critics of Israel's military campaign in Gaza. The amended version still included the IHRA's broad definition of antisemitism but deleted the alliance's name and examples that include explicit references to Israel.

Opponents argued that such direct references would stifle criticism of Israel in academic settings and advocacy on campuses for Palestinians in a worsening humanitarian crisis. Support of the bill virtually flipped once the changes were made.

Some Jewish organizations called on lawmakers to reverse course and include the entirety of the original House bill.

The disagreement between the chambers prompted the bill to go to conference committee. Republican state Rep. Chris Jeter, the House bill's author, said in committee Thursday he would prefer for lawmakers to add the IHRA name back to the bill, but keep the clause about its examples out.

The conference committee, a body consisting of lawmakers from both chambers, reached an agreement Friday to add the IHRA name back to the bill. The clause about its examples remained cut from the final version.

The bill was approved by both chambers of the General Assembly Friday evening with bipartisan support. It now goes to Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb for final review.

Caryl Auslander, spokesperson for the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council, told reporters the group is behind the final version of the bill. She said the examples are incorporated into the meaning of the bill through the IHRA name even if they are not explicitly cited in the bill's language.

"We are grateful to the House and Senate in Indiana for listening to our community and for protecting Jewish Hoosier students across the state," Auslander said. "We urge Governor Holcomb to sign this critical piece of legislation into law as soon as possible."

The bill's sponsor, Republican state Sen. Aaron Freeman called it a "strong statement" against antisemitism.

"Hopefully it's a guide to live by in the future in our state," he said.

The Indiana Muslim Advocacy Network, which testified against the original House version over concerns it would stifle criticism of Israel on college campuses, released a statement in support of the final bill.

"We are thankful to members of the Indiana General Assembly who spent time listening and working with multiple communities to make sure the contemporary examples accompanied by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism, were stricken from the bill," the statement said.

Daniel Segal, a coordinating committee member for Jewish Voice for Peace Indiana, said the final version of the bill is an improvement of the original House bill, but not as clear as the Senate version.

In the legislative session's final week, prominent conservative figures in Indiana politics made statements in support of reinstating the IHRA reference, including Attorney General Todd Rokita, Lieutenant Governor and gubernatorial Republican candidate Suzanne Crouch and several U.S. representatives for the state, including GOP U.S. Senate candidate Jim Banks.

The push to define antisemitism in numerous states predates the Oct. 7 attacks in which Hamas killed some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, sparking a war that has killed more than 30,000 Palestinians. But the war gave supporters another motivation. This year, governors in Arkansas and Georgia signed measures and a proposal is still awaiting gubernatorial review in Florida. South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem on Wednesday signed a bill defining antisemitism.

BEETLE BAILEY

WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS GIVING ME A HARD TIME?
I GIVE EVERYONE A HARD TIME. IT'S MY JOB
GREG + MORT WALKER
3/12
BUT PICKING ON YOU IS JUST MORE FUN
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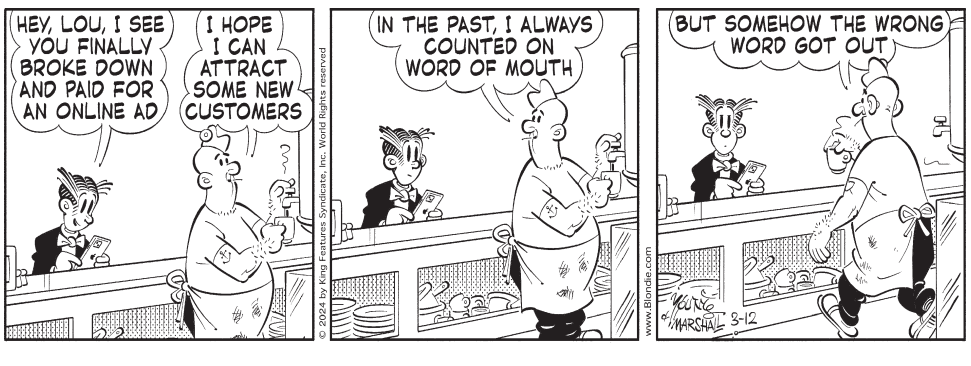
BLONDIE


HEY, LOU, I SEE YOU FINALLY BROKE DOWN AND PAID FOR AN ONLINE AD
I HOPE I CAN ATTRACT SOME NEW CUSTOMERS
IN THE PAST, I ALWAYS COUNTED ON WORD OF MOUTH
BUT SOMEHOW THE WRONG WORD GOT OUT
YOU'RE A MARSHALL 3-12
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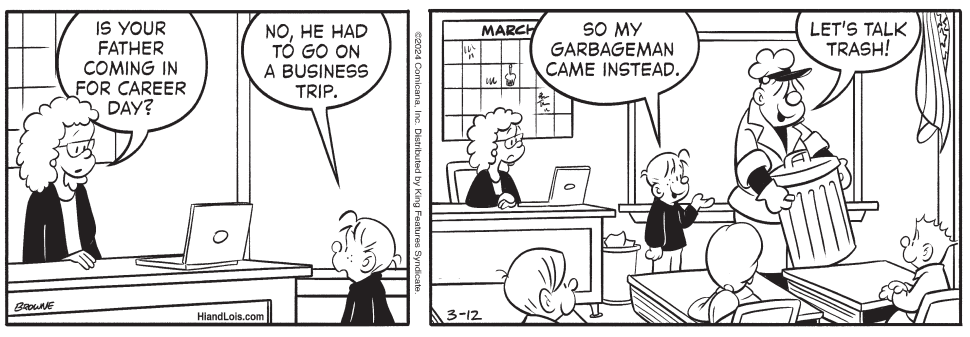
www.Blondie.com

FAMILY CIRCUS

DENNIS THE MENACE

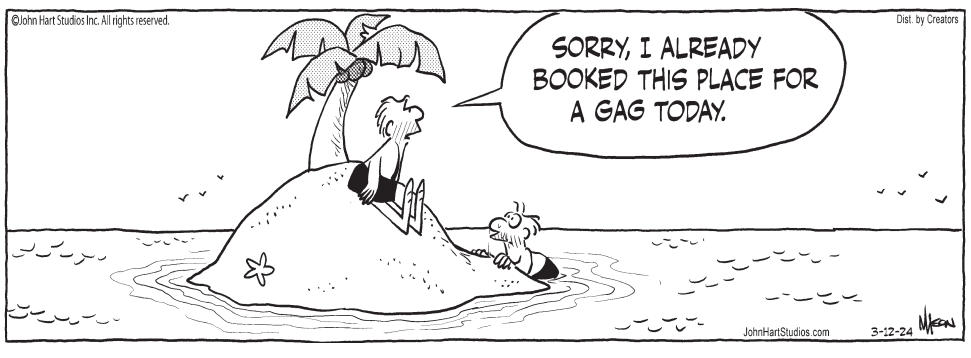
HI & LOIS


IS YOUR FATHER COMING IN FOR CAREER DAY?
NO, HE HAD TO GO ON A BUSINESS TRIP.
BROOME
HIandLois.com
©2024 Comicana, Inc. Distributed by King Features Syndicate.
MARCH
SO MY GARBAGEMAN CAME INSTEAD.
LET'S TALK TRASH!
3-12

BABY BLUES

OKAY, LET'S SEE YOUR ZOMBIE LOOK.
BR-A-I-I-I-I-N-S...
©Comics Curmudgeon
GOOD... GOOD...
©2024, BABY BLUES BROS LLC. DIST. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION 3-12.
ARMS... KILLING... ZOMBIE.
THAT'S THE PRICE OF BEING UNDEAD.
HUBBARD & SCOTT

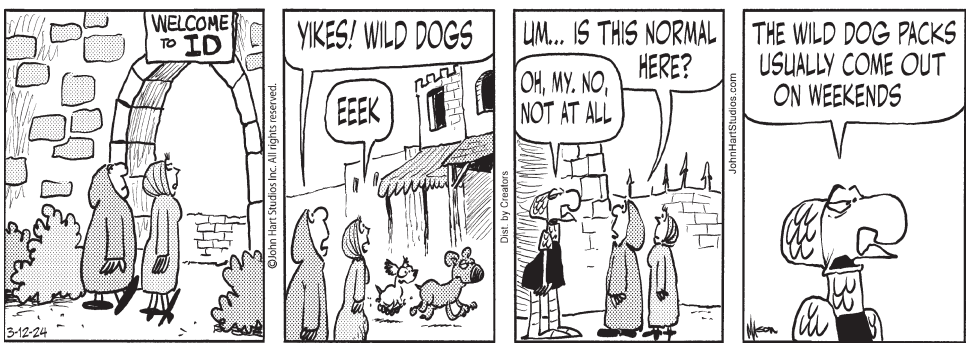
BC

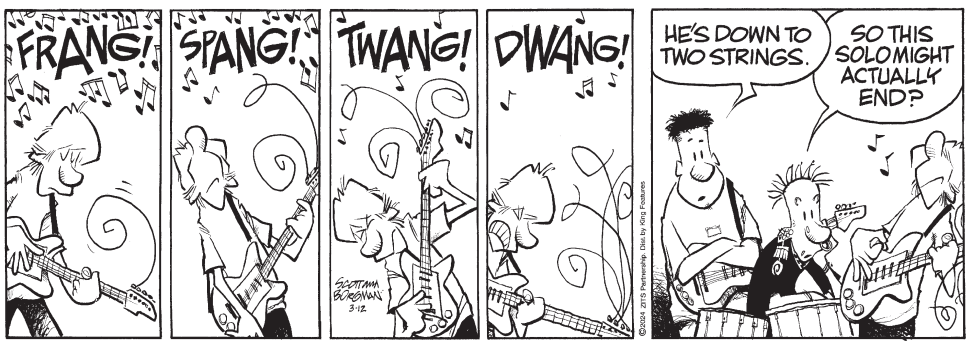


CURTIS

BACK IN THE DAY I GREW UP WITH A REALLY STRICT MAW, CEDRICK!
CURTIS
SHE WAS A CHURCH-GOER AN' BELIEVED IN HOLY WHUPPIN'S
BLONDE WEAVE FROM A BLONDE HORSE TAIL
©2024 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
IF I STEPPED OUTTA LINE, SHE THREATENED TO SLAP THE BLACK OFFEN ME...
BRINKLEY
SOUL SCISSORS
3-12
I HAVE NO PROOF, BUT B'TWEEN THE AGES OF SEVEN AND TEN I'D SWEAR MY BUTT WAS WHITE!

WIZARD OF ID





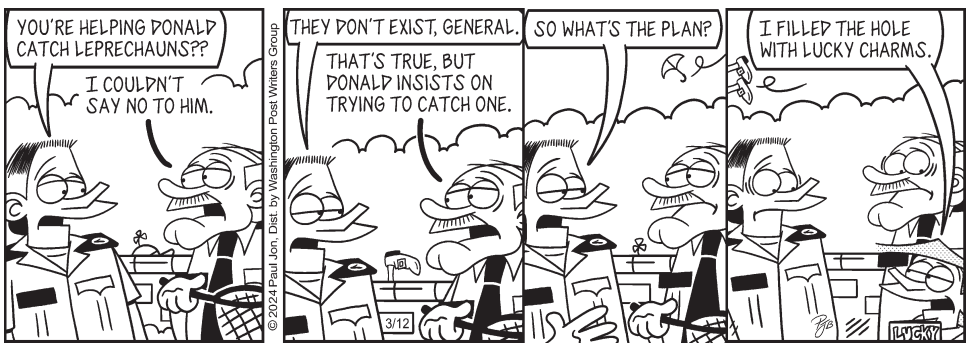
CRABGRASS

HEY, BOYS! WHAT NONSENSE ARE WE INTO TODAY?
OH, UHM...
© 2024 HOUSE BOUND, INC. DIST. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL
WAIT, DID YOU GUYS SWAP CLOTHES? ARE YOU STILL PRETENDING TO BE EACH OTHER? HILARIOUS!
YOU TWO SURE KNOW HOW TO COMMIT TO A BIT.
BRIAN 3/12
SHE REALLY TOOK THAT IN STRIDE.
WE'VE SET A PRETTY HIGH BAR FOR NONSENSE.

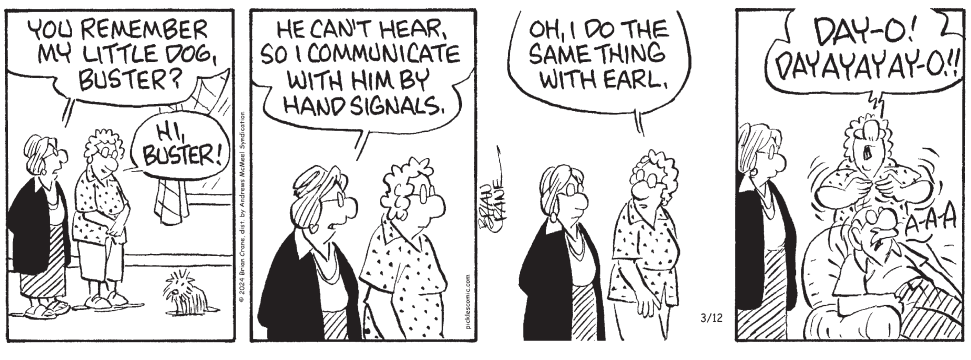
GARFIELD

THAT'S ME ON THE FOOTBALL TEAM
YEAR BOOK
© 2024 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
I ONLY MADE IT ONTO THE PRACTICE SQUAD, THOUGH
THE SCHOOL COULDN'T AFFORD TACKLE DUMMIES, SO...
SAY NO MORE
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS
3-12

FORT KNOX


YOU'RE HELPING DONALD CATCH LEPRECHAUNS??
I COULDN'T SAY NO TO HIM.
© 2024 Paul Jon, Dist. by Washington Post Writers Group
THEY DON'T EXIST, GENERAL.
THAT'S TRUE, BUT DONALD INSISTS ON TRYING TO CATCH ONE.
3/12
SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?
I FILLED THE HOLE WITH LUCKY CHARMS.
LUCKY!

PICKLES


YOU REMEMBER MY LITTLE DOG, BUSTER?
HI, BUSTER!
© 2024 Brian Crane. dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
HE CAN'T HEAR, SO I COMMUNICATE WITH HIM BY HAND SIGNALS.
OH, I DO THE SAME THING WITH EARL.
3/12
DAY-O! DAYAYAYAY-O!!
A-A-A

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today's highlight in history:

On March 12, 1955, legendary jazz saxophonist Charlie "Bird" Parker died in New York at age 34.

On this date:

In 1864, Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant assumed command as General-in-Chief of the Union armies in the Civil War.

In 1912, the Girl Scouts of the USA had its beginnings as Juliette Gordon Low of Savannah, Georgia, founded the first American troop of the Girl Guides.

In 1925, Chinese revolutionary leader Sun Yat-sen died in Beijing.

In 1947, President Harry S. Truman announced what became known as the "Truman Doctrine" to help Greece and Turkey resist Communism.

In 1971, Hafez Assad was confirmed as president of Syria in a referendum.

In 1980, a Chicago jury found John Wayne Gacy Jr. guilty of the murders of 33 men and boys. (The next day, Gacy was sentenced to death; he was executed in May 1994.)

In 1987, the musical play "Les Miserables" opened on Broadway.

In 1994, the Church of England ordained its first women priests.

In 2003, Elizabeth Smart, the 15-year-old girl who vanished from her bedroom nine months earlier, was found alive in a Salt Lake City suburb with two drifters, Brian David Mitchell and Wanda Barzee. (Mitchell is serving a life sentence; Barzee was released from prison in September 2018.)

In 2009, disgraced financier Bernard Madoff pleaded guilty in New York to pulling off perhaps the biggest swindle in Wall Street history; he would be sentenced to 150 years behind bars. (Madoff died in prison in April 2021.)

In 2011, fifteen passengers were killed when a tour bus returning from a Connecticut casino scraped along a guard rail on the outskirts of New York City, tipped on its side and slammed into a pole that sheared it nearly end to end.

In 2012, Greece implemented the biggest debt write-down in history, swapping the bulk of its privately held bonds with new ones worth less than half their original value.

In 2017, a bus plowed into people taking part in an early morning street festival in Haiti, killing at least 34 of them.

In 2013, black smoke poured from the Sistine Chapel chimney, signaling that cardinals had failed on their first vote of the papal conclave to choose a new leader of the Catholic Church to succeed Benedict XVI.

In 2018, Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee said they'd completed a draft report concluding that there was no collusion or coordination between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and Russia.

In 2021, the city of Minneapolis agreed to pay $27 million to settle a civil lawsuit from George Floyd's family over the Black man's death in police custody.

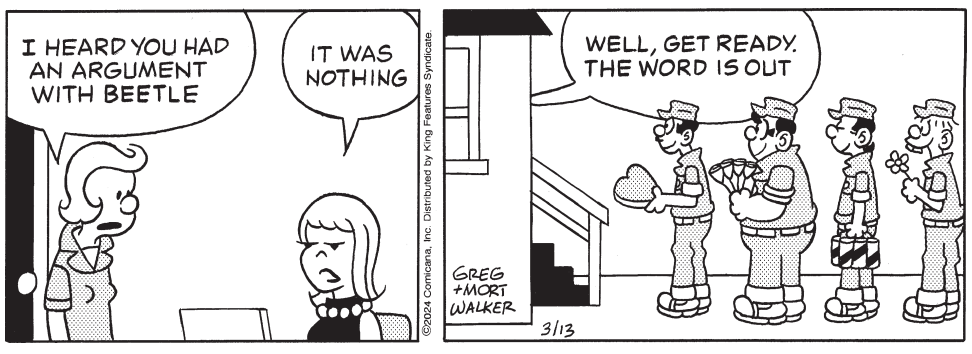
In 2020, as the coronavirus crisis deepened in the U.S., the stock market had its biggest drop since the Black Monday crash of 1987, the NCAA canceled its basketball tournaments after earlier planning to play in empty arenas and the NHL joined the NBA in suspending play.

In 2022, Russian forces pounding the Ukrainian port city of Mariupol shelled a mosque that was sheltering more than 80 people, including children.

In 2023, "Everything, Everywhere All at Once" won seven Oscars, including best picture and three of the four acting awards.

Today's Birthdays: Politician, diplomat and civil rights activist Andrew Young is 92. Actor Barbara Feldon is 91. Actor-singer Liza Minnelli is 78. Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, is 77. Singer-songwriter James Taylor is 76. Former Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., is 76. Rock singer-musician Bill Payne (Little Feat) is 75. Actor Jon Provost (TV: "Lassie") is 74. Author Carl Hiaasen is 71. Rock musician Steve Harris (Iron Maiden) is 68. Actor Lesley Manville is 68. Actor Jerry Levine is 67. Singer Marlon Jackson (The Jackson Five) is 67. Actor Jason Beghe is 64. Actor Courtney B. Vance is 64. Actor Titus Welliver is 62. Former MLB All-Star Darryl Strawberry is 62. Actor Julia Campbell is 61. Actor Jake Weber is 61. Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., is 56. Actor Aaron Eckhart is 56. CNN reporter Jake Tapper is 55. Rock musician Graham Coxon is 55. Actor Rhys Coiro is 45. Country singer Holly Williams is 43. Actor Samm Levine is 41. Actor Jaimie Alexander is 40. Actor Tyler Patrick Jones is 30.

BEETLE BAILEY


I HEARD YOU HAD AN ARGUMENT WITH BEETLE
IT WAS NOTHING
WELL, GET READY. THE WORD IS OUT
GREG + MORT WALKER
3/13
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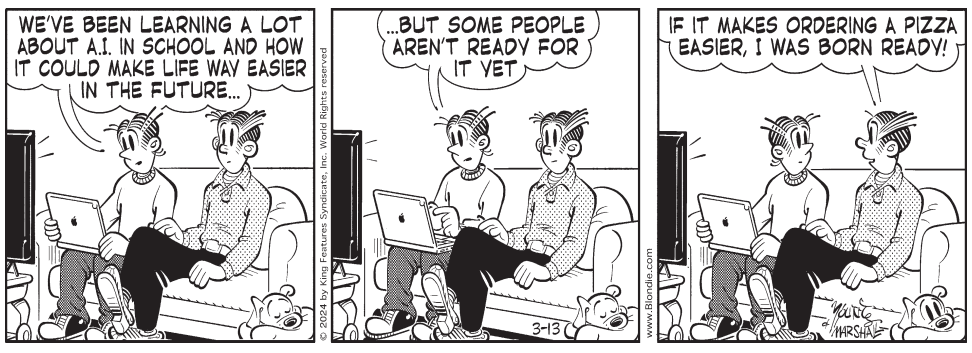
BLONDIE


WE'VE BEEN LEARNING A LOT ABOUT A.I. IN SCHOOL AND HOW IT COULD MAKE LIFE WAY EASIER IN THE FUTURE...
...BUT SOME PEOPLE AREN'T READY FOR IT YET
IF IT MAKES ORDERING A PIZZA EASIER, I WAS BORN READY!
3-13
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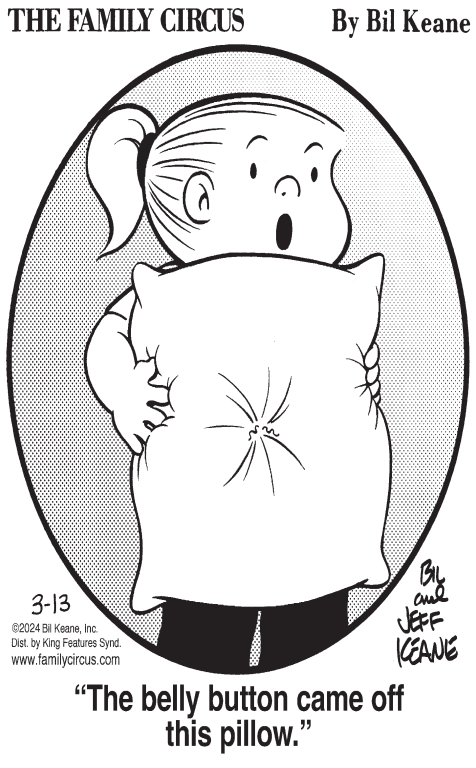
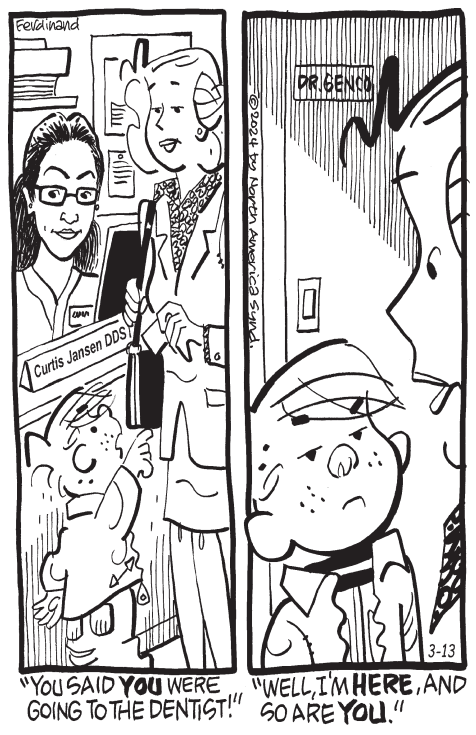
www.Blondie.com

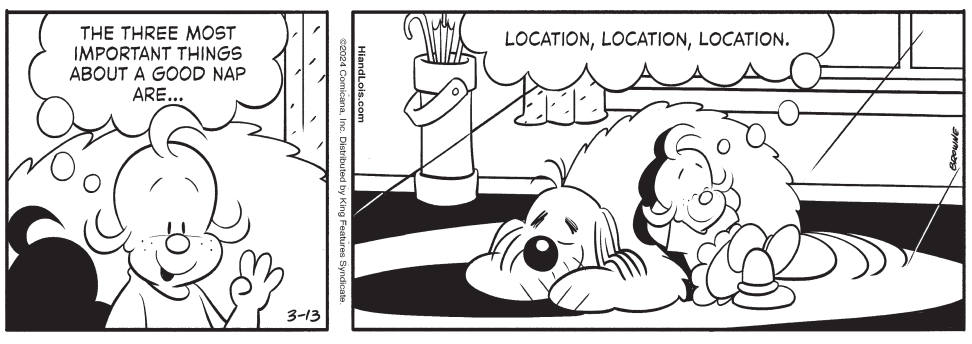
FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE



HI & LOIS


THE THREE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS ABOUT A GOOD NAP ARE...
LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION.
3-13
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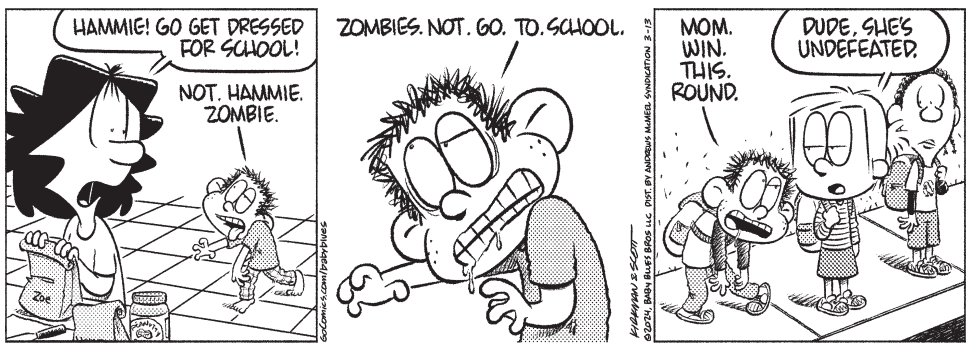
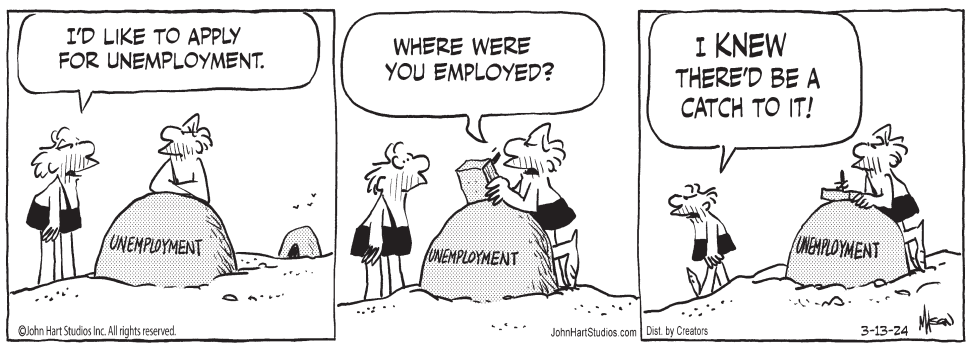
HiandLois.com

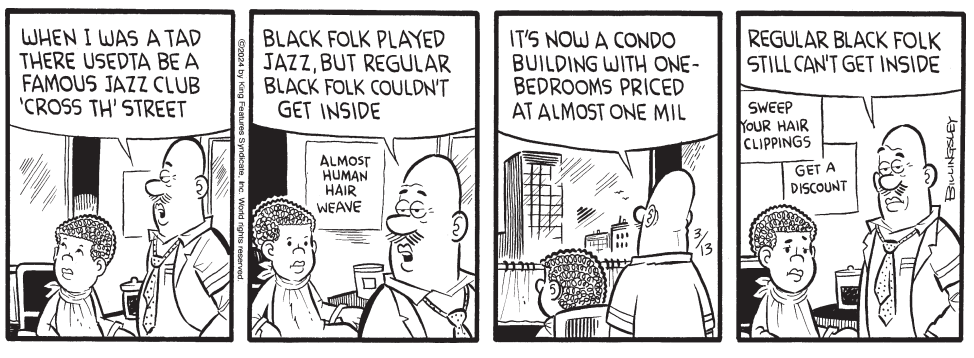
BABY BLUES



BC



CURTIS


WHEN I WAS A TAD THERE USEDTA BE A FAMOUS JAZZ CLUB 'CROSS TH' STREET
BLACK FOLK PLAYED JAZZ, BUT REGULAR BLACK FOLK COULDN'T GET INSIDE
ALMOST HUMAN HAIR WEAVE
IT'S NOW A CONDO BUILDING WITH ONE-BEDROOMS PRICED AT ALMOST ONE MIL
3/13
REGULAR BLACK FOLK STILL CAN'T GET INSIDE
SWEEP YOUR HAIR CLIPPINGS
GET A DISCOUNT
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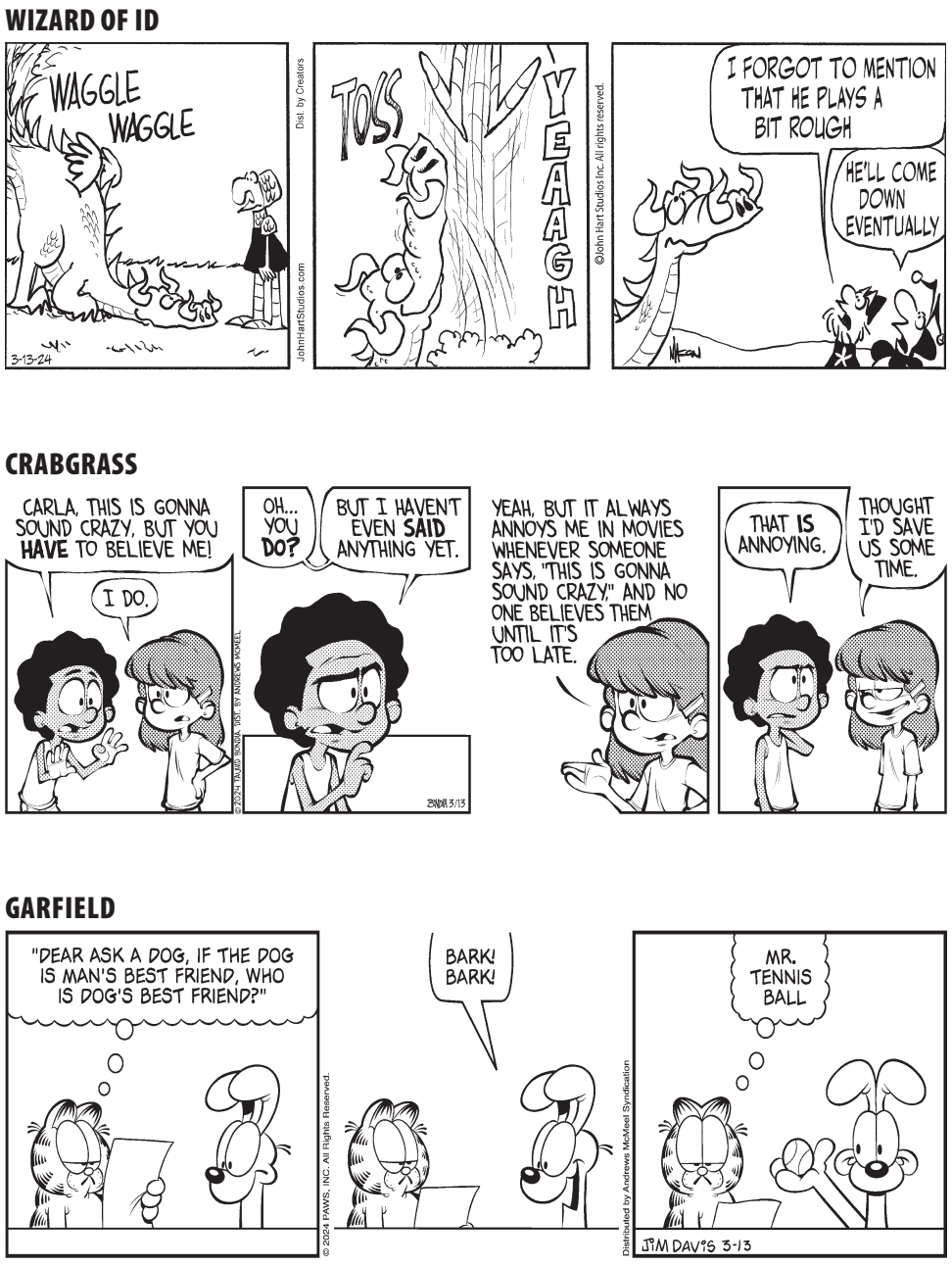
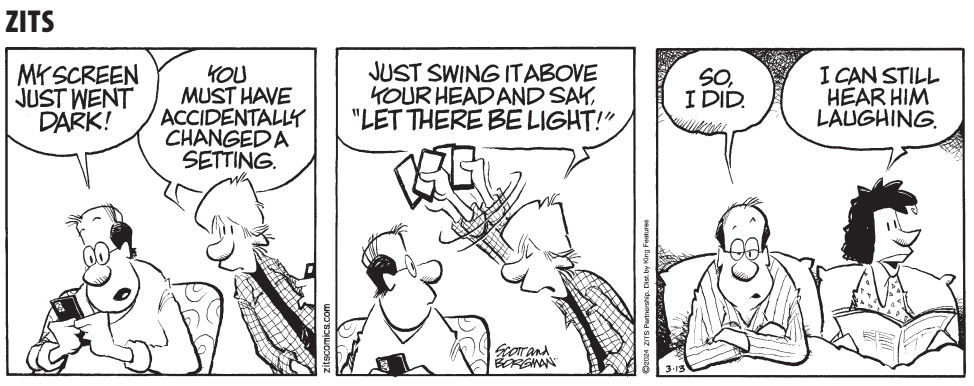
WIZARD OF ID



ZITS


MY SCREEN JUST WENT DARK!
YOU MUST HAVE ACCIDENTALLY CHANGED A SETTING.
JUST SWING IT ABOVE YOUR HEAD AND SAY, "LET THERE BE LIGHT!"
SO, I DID.
I CAN STILL HEAR HIM LAUGHING.
3-13
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zitscomics.com

CRABGRASS

CARLA, THIS IS GONNA SOUND CRAZY, BUT YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME!
I DO.
OH... YOU DO?
BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN SAID ANYTHING YET.
YEAH, BUT IT ALWAYS ANNOYS ME IN MOVIES WHENEVER SOMEONE SAYS, "THIS IS GONNA SOUND CRAZY," AND NO ONE BELIEVES THEM UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE.
THAT IS ANNOYING.
THOUGHT I'D SAVE US SOME TIME.
©2024 HUNGRYMINDS, INC. BY ANDREWS MCMEEL

GARFIELD

"DEAR ASK A DOG, IF THE DOG IS MAN'S BEST FRIEND, WHO IS DOG'S BEST FRIEND?"
BARK! BARK!
MR. TENNIS BALL
JIM DAVIS 3-13
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FORT KNOX

DONALD, I DON'T THINK WE'RE GOING TO CATCH A LEPRECHAUN TONIGHT.
WHAT KIND OF ATTITUDE IS THAT??
I'M JUST BEING HONEST.
WELL, WE POURED 20 BOXES OF LUCKY CHARMS IN A HOLE...
...SO WE'RE BOUND TO CATCH SOMETHING!
CRUNCH!!!
GET ME SOME MILK!
3/13
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PICKLES

SINCE BUSTER IS DEAF, I'M TEACHING HIM HAND SIGNALS.
WHEN I SLAP MY LEG LIKE THIS, IT MEANS "COME."
SLAP! SLAP! SLAP!
OH, THAT COULD BE CONFUSING.
WHY?
WHEN I SLAP MY LEG LIKE THAT, IT MEANS MY LEG IS ASLEEP.
3/13
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TODAY IN HISTORY

Today's highlight in history:

On March 13, 2013, Jorge Bergoglio of Argentina was elected pope, choosing the name Francis. he was the first pontiff from the Americas and the first from outside Europe in more than a millennium.

On this date:

In 1781, the seventh planet of the solar system, Uranus, was discovered by Sir William Herschel.

In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed a measure prohibiting Union military officers from returning fugitive slaves to their owners.

In 1925, the Tennessee General Assembly approved a bill prohibiting the teaching of the theory of evolution. (Gov. Austin Peay signed the measure on March 21; Tennessee repealed the law in 1967.

In 1933, banks in the U.S. began to reopen after a "holiday" declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

In 1938, famed attorney Clarence S. Darrow died in Chicago.

In 1943, financier and philanthropist J.P. Morgan Jr., 75, died in Boca Grande, Florida.

In 1946, U.S. Army Pfc. Sadao Munemori was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for sacrificing himself to save fellow soldiers from a grenade explosion in Seravezza, Italy; he was the only Japanese-American service member so recognized in the immediate aftermath of World War II.

In 1954, the Battle of Dien Bien Phu began during the First Indochina War as Viet Minh forces attacked French troops, who were defeated nearly two months later.

In 1995, two Americans working for U.S. defense contractors in Kuwait, David Daliberti and William Barloon, were seized by Iraq after they strayed across the border; sentenced to eight years in prison, both were freed later the same year.

In 1996, a gunman burst into an elementary school in Dunblane, Scotland, and opened fire, killing 16 children and one teacher before killing himself.

In 2011, the estimated death toll from Japan's earthquake and tsunami climbed past 10,000 as authorities raced to combat the threat of multiple nuclear reactor meltdowns while hundreds of thousands of people struggled to find food and water.

In 2012, a ferry carrying more than 200 people collided with a cargo boat and sank just short of Dhaka, Bangladesh; most on board died.

In 2017, Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, once the world's most-wanted fugitive known as "Carlos the Jackal," appeared in a French court for a deadly 1974 attack on a Paris shopping arcade that killed two people. (He was convicted and sentenced to life in prison for the third time.)

In 2018, President Donald Trump abruptly dumped Secretary of State Rex Tillerson — via Twitter — and moved CIA Director Mike Pompeo from the role of America's spy chief to its top diplomat.

In 2020, Breonna Taylor, a 26-year-old Black woman, was fatally shot in her apartment in Louisville, Kentucky, during a botched raid by plainclothes narcotics detectives; no drugs were found, and the "no-knock" warrant used to enter by force was later found to be flawed.

In 2021, Marvelous Marvin Hagler, the middleweight boxing great whose title reign and career ended with a split-decision loss to "Sugar" Ray Leonard in 1987, died at age 66 at his New Hampshire home.

Today's Birthdays: Jazz musician Roy Haynes is 99. Songwriter Mike Stoller is 91. Singer-songwriter Neil Sedaka is 85. R&B/gospel singer Candi Staton is 84. Opera singer Julia Migenes is 75. Actor William H. Macy is 74. Comedian Robin Duke is 70. Actor Dana Delany is 68. Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D., is 67. Rock musician Adam Clayton (U2) is 64. Jazz musician Terence Blanchard is 62. Actor Christopher Collet is 56. Rock musician Matt McDonough is 55. Actor Annabeth Gish is 53. Actor Tracy Wells is 53. Rapper-actor Common is 52. Rapper Khujo (Goodie Mob, The Lumberjacks) is 52. Singer Glenn Lewis is 49. Actor Noel Fisher is 40. Singers Natalie and Nicole Albino (Nina Sky) are 40. Actor Emile Hirsch is 39. U.S. Olympic gold medal skier Mikaela Shiffrin is 29. Tennis star Coco Gauff is 20.

OBITUARIES

Danny 'Dan' Joe Adler

Danny "Dan" Joe Adler, age 71, of Crystal River, Florida and formerly of Madison, Indiana, entered this life on May 23, 1952 in Madison, Indiana. He was the loving son of Charles "Sonny" William and Merdell Lincoln Barnes Adler. Danny died on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at 4:23 a.m. at the Reserve at Citrus Community in Lecanto, Florida after a battle with dementia.

Danny will be missed by his loving wife of 53 years, Marcia M. Craddock Adler of Crystal River, FL; his loving daughter, Michelle Marie Gulling and her husband, Donald of Ocala, FL; his loving son, Ret. Staff Sgt. U.S. Army Charles Daniel Adler of Beverly Hills, FL; his mother, Merdell Barnes Adler of Madison, IN; his grandchildren, David Augustus Gulling, Sean Alexander Gulling, Aydon Adler, Wyatt Adler, Devon Adler and Payton Adler; his sister, LeTiscia (Tony) Wilson and her husband, Tony of Madison, IN; his brother, Charles Lee "Chuck" Adler and his wife, Tammy of Madison, IN; his nephew, Brady Adler, his niece, Kaitlin Kampwerth and her husband, Nathan; his sisters in law, Erma Jean Craddock of Madison, IN, Ruth Pettit of Hanover, IN, Terry Wildman of Madison, IN, Bonnie Hadley and her companion, David of Madison, IN, Vickie Ginn and her husband, Billy of Bedford, KY, Delores Bird and her husband, Rick of Hanover, IN, his brother in law, Kenny Craddock of Madison, IN. He was preceded in death by his father, Charles William "Sonny" Adler; his brothers in law, Jeff Wildman, Robert Pettit, Jr.; his sister in law, Sherry Craddock; his grandparents, Charles Nichols Adler, Ruth Easton Adler, Guy Bingham Barnes, and Virgie Lee Hood Barnes.

Friends may visit on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 from 5 — 7 p.m. at the Strickland Funeral Home, 1901 SE Hwy 19 in Crystal River, Florida and Friday, March 15, 2024, from 4 — 7 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. March 16, 2024 until time of the service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, Indiana.

Funeral services will be conducted on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at 11 a.m., by Pastor J.D. Traylor at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison. Interment will follow in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road in Madison, Indiana.

A final salute and military honors to be provided by the Fort Knox Ceremonial Unit and the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

Memorial contributions may be made to your local hospice or to the American Cancer Society, or the American Heart Association, or the Alzheimer's Association. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover or at the Strickland Funeral Home in Crystal River. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

Tonya L. (Higgins) Dilger

Tonya L. (Higgins) Dilger, age 56, of Union, Kentucky, formerly of Canaan, Indiana, entered this life on September 13, 1967 in Madison, Indiana. She was the loving daughter of John Frederick and Barbara Ann (Hart) Higgins of Canaan, Indiana. Tonya passed away unexpectedly at 5 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at the St. Elizabeth Healthcare in Florence, Kentucky.

Tonya will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Nikolaus Johannes Bernhard Dilger of Union, KY; her triplets, Lucas, Isabella and Alexander Dilger of Union, KY; her twins, John-Daniel and Maximilian Dilger of Union, KY; her parents, John Frederick and Barbara Ann (Hart) Higgins of Canaan, IN; her brother, John Matthew "Joey" Higgins and his wife, Debbie of Canaan, IN; her mother-in-law, Ilse (Maschmeier) Dilger of Bochum, Germany; her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Bettina Dilger and Gerhard Rocholl of Gelsenkirchen, Germany and Alexander and Katrin Dilger of Dortmund, Germany; her nieces and nephews, Julia and Christopher Rocholl and Fabian and Sophia Dilger; her aunts and uncles Donna Hart of Charlestown, IN, Larry and Donna Higgins of Columbus, IN and William Robert Hart of Madison, IN and her several cousins.

She was preceded in death by her children, Patrick Jakob Nathan "Pat-Pat" Dilger, Carmen Barbara Tonya Dilger, and Daniel Nikolaus Johannes Dilger; her maternal-grandparents, Harold Hart, and Della Frances (O'Connell) Hart; her paternal-grand-parents, John Isaacs Higgins, and Mary Perle (Clements) Higgins; her niece, Jacqueline Elaine "Jacqui" Higgins; her uncles, Charles Hart, and Harold David "Doc" Hart, and her father-in-law, Bernard Dilger.

Visitation was held on Monday, March 11, 2024 and from 10 — 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at the Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home, 208 Ferry Street, Vevay, Indiana 47043.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m., Tuesday, March 12, 2024, by Pastor Chris Clemans, at the Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay.

Interment will follow in the Caledonia Cemetery near Moorefield, Indiana.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Caledonia Cemetery. Cards are available at the funeral home or online at www.haskellandmorrison.com.

Joseph 'Joe' Michael Johnson

Joseph "Joe" Michael Johnson, age 69, of Hanover, Indiana entered this life on January 5, 1955 in Madison, Indiana. He was the loving son of the late Franklin Theodore Johnson and Leona Parker Johnson Higgins. Joe died on Saturday, March 9, 2024, at 6:45 a.m. at the Hillcrest Village in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

Joe will be missed by his loving wife of 47 years, Janice Louise Persell Johnson of Hanover, IN; his loving sons, Brian Johnson and his wife, Ashleigh of Trail Creek, IN and Travis Johnson and his fiancée, Katrina Adams of Lexington, IN; his loving step-daughter, Tina Buchanan of Madison, IN; his granddaughter, Brooke Wood and her husband, Aaron; his great grandchildren, Xavier and Caleb Wood; his brother, Dave Johnson and his companion, Barbara Holt of Madison, IN; his aunt, Janet Vest Braley of Madison, IN; several other relatives. He was preceded in death by his father, Franklin Theodore Johnson; his mother, Leona Parker Johnson Higgins; his infant sister, Ruth Jane Johnson; his half brothers, Kenneth Wayne Johnson, and Michael Allen Johnson, and his sister in law, Jean Johnson.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 11 a.m., by Pastor Jeremy Dickey at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, 325 Demaree Drive in Madison, Indiana. Interment will follow in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 1415 North Gate Road in Madison, Indiana.

Friends may visit Wednesday from 4 — 7 p.m. and Thursday from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre.

The Milford Masonic Lodge No. 158 F. & A.M. will hold a Masonic service on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 6 p.m. at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre.

A final salute with military honors will be provided by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wounded Warriors or the Alzheimer's Association. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

James Richard Heimbach

James Richard Heimbach, age 77, of Vevay, Indiana, and the son of the late Richard Wendell and Lola Eveleigh (Sipe) Heimbach, was born May 18, 1946, at the King's Daughters' Hospital in Madison, Indiana. Mr. Heimbach passed away on Thursday, February 29, 2024 at the Norton Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky.

His life will be cherished by his sons: Richard and Carrie Heimbach, of Hanover, IN, Dennis and Valerie Heimbach, of Coxs Creek, KY, and Darrell Heimbach, of Shepherdsville, KY; his sister: Carol Bowman of Hanover; his grandchildren: Kaitlin and Daniel Uebel, Danielle and Andy Becker, DJ Heimbach, and Steven Heimbach. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Dennis.

Cremation was chosen with a graveside service to be held at a later date.

Lytle Welty Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Vail Chapel is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences can be made at www.lytlewelty.com.

Kearney Gaylord Johnson

Kearney Gaylord Johnson, age 90, of Madison, Indiana, formerly of Lake Havasu City, Arizona entered this life on November 27, 1933, in Madison, Indiana. He was the loving son of the late John William Johnson, Sr. and Anna M. Weber Munier Johnson. He graduated from Central High School in 1951. Kearney was united in marriage in 1952 to Lillie Mae Bradley. This union of 11 years was blessed with a daughter, Donna and a son, Robert Alan. He served in the United State Army from 1955-1957 during the Korean War, stationed in Germany. He was an insurance agent for Michigan Mutual Liberty Co. for 31 years in Detroit, Michigan. After moving back to Madison, he worked for State Farm Insurance Company for 2 years, then Madison Bank & Trust Insurance Department for 10 years. He was a founding member of the Calvary Baptist Church, president of Easter Seals Society, Elks Club member in Lake Havasu city. past president and Lt.. Governor of the Rotary Club. He enjoyed collecting old fishing lures, and enjoyed his 1991 Mercury Capri Convertible. Kearney died on Monday, March 4, 2024, at 7:54 p.m. at his home in Madison, Indiana.

Kearney will be missed by his loving daughter, Donna Johnson Bauer of Madison, IN; son, Robert Alan Johnson of Lake Havasu City, AZ; his grandchildren, Elias Johnson and his wife, Inaya, Wesley Johnson, and Keagan "Heather" Bauer; his great grandson, Ezra August Johnson; several nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives. He was preceded in death by father, John William Johnson, Sr.; mother, Anna M. Weber Munier Johnson; his step father, Charles W. Munier; his companion and life partner of 25 years, Ruth Ulrich; his sisters, Kathryn L. Munier Holt, Elizabeth "Betty" Munier Cooke, and her husband, John; his brothers, Charles Louis Munier, and his wife, Mary Ellen, Leroy Munier, and his wife Nancy, John "Johnny" Raymond Johnson, Jr.; his former wife and mother of his children, Lillie Mae Bradley Johnson.

Funeral services were conducted on Monday, March 11, 2024, by Pastor Mike Hamby at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison. Interment will follow at a later date in the Olive Branch Cemetery in Madison, Indiana.

A final salute with military honors was provided by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion at the time of his graveside.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Calvary Baptist Church. Cards are available at the Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres of Madison and Hanover. Online condolences, remembrances, and memorials can be left at www.morgan-nay.com.

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www.madisoncourier.com

MAYOR

FROM **PAGE A1**

Another initiative is to establish a master plan for Crooked Creek Watershed Flood Mitigation in an area where he said flooding has been a chronic problem for more than 150 years. "This effort will save lives and reduce property damage in the future. It will not eliminate flood risk. That will always exist, but we can make the right investments to help mitigate it when the next disaster occurs. And time really is of the essence," he said.

Courtney said he also wants to modernize public safety. "We need to develop a plan that envisions what public safety will look like in the next 25 to 50 years. What we don't manage, manages us, and we have to be prepared to lead Madison into the future."

Other policy initiatives will involve updating the city's zoning ordinance, "which is critical to our future city planning efforts, working with Ball State's Rural Policy Institute regarding the comprehensive community wealth approach to community amenities, finalizing the east end traffic calming initiatives, and working with implementing a very important program in the new jail called JCAP (Jail Chemical Addiction Programs), which will bring hope to inmates battling substance abuse disorders. This and so much more are needed to improve the quality of life for all Madisonians."

Courtney also emphasized the importance of placemaking noting that "is a concept that creates and enhances public spaces to improve the quality of life in our community. When people are added, public spaces become alive, promoting social interaction and much more vibrancy," he said.

"Whether it's parks, public safety, historic preservation, blight elimination, community amenities or many other things, placemaking is community building or, as I like to say, people-making. When people come first, results happen. You will always see me and my team bring new solutions to a lot of old problems and deal with them head-on."

Courtney said Madison is excelling in almost every area — "historic economic development investment, a growing economy, low unemployment, record tourism, and the largest investments on our riverfront in Madison's history, to name a few."

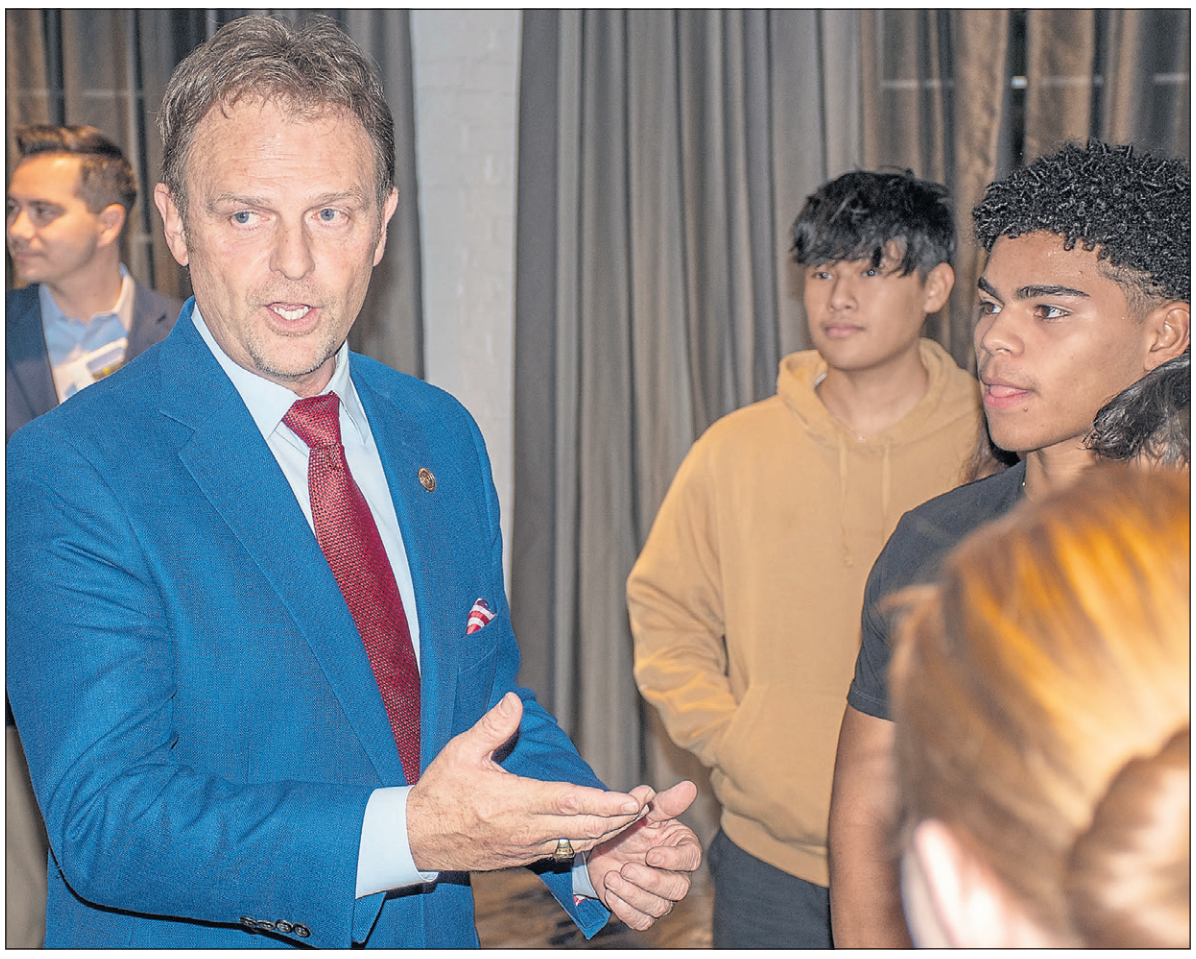
However, he said one area that needs improvement is public health, noting that out of 92 Indiana counties, Jefferson County is 65th in life expectancy, 25th in obesity, 44th in infant mortality and 90th in smoking. He also added that "only 19 counties across the state of Indiana have a worse suicide rate than ours. We have to do better."

Courtney noted the state of Indiana has recently provided "unprecedented funding" for the Health First Indiana program by investing in more core services, education, nutrition and substance abuse awareness programs. "I was honored to be a member of Governor (Eric) Holcomb's public health commission and was very proud when Jefferson County opted into the plan and committed to a healthier community," he said.

Courtney said Madison's "bright future" is helped by what it has to offer. "The heart of any thriving community is its economy, and public-private partnerships playing a pivotal role in fostering economic growth. Madison's unique charm, with its well-preserved 19th-century architecture and picturesque landscapes, has the potential to attract both residents and tourists alike. By strategically partnering with private investors, we can revitalize key areas, create job opportunities and promote sustainable economic development."

Courtney added that Madison's continued success will depend on investments and partnerships.

"Public-private partnerships serve as the catalyst for positive change, bringing together the strengths of both sectors to create a thriving community," he said. "Investment is the currency that helps our community grow. Together, let us answer the question about our vision for our community, and then let's go out and do it. If we believe it, we can achieve it. Madison's future is bright, and I am honored to be Madison's Mayor."



Bob Countney

A group of 14 seniors from Shawe Memorial High School's U.S. Government and Current Events classes attended Thursday's State of the City address given by Madison Mayor Bob Courtney. The mayor is pictured talking to some of those student after the event.

DEATH NOTICES

Betty Wanda Warman Adams, 91, of Lexington, IN, died Sunday, March 10, 2024, at Norton King's Daughters' Health in Madison, IN. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre, Hanover Chapel, in Hanover, IN, www.morgan-nay.com.

Lloyd A. Arbuckle, 82, of Madison, IN, died Sunday, March 10, 2024, at Norton King's Daughters' Health in Madison. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres in Madison, www.morgan-nay.com.

Ernest Carl Chase, 70, of East Enterprise, IN, died Thursday, March 7, 2024, at his residence. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12, at Markland Funeral Home in Rising Sun, IN, with burial at Rising Sun New Cemetery there, www.marklandfuneralhome.com.

Darrell Wayne Cooley, 53, of Carrollton, KY, died Friday, March 8, 2024, at Carroll County Memorial Hospital in Carrollton. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Madison, IN, www.lytlewelty.com.

Larry J. Green, 62, of Lexington, IN, died Saturday, March 9, 2024, at his home. Funeral service is at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, at Collins Funeral Home in Scottsburg, IN, with interment to follow in Lexington Cemetery in Lexington. Arrangements by Collins Funeral Home in Scottsburg, www.collinsfuneralhome.net.

Donald Eugene Henderson, 57, of Madison, IN, died Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, at Norton King's Daughters' Health in Madison. Funeral service was Feb. 26, at Markland Funeral Home in Rising Sun, IN, with interment at Cedar Hedge Cemetery, www.marklandfuneralhome.com.

Lorenzo "Gator" Hicks, 64, of Campbellsburg, KY, and formerly of Bedford, KY, died Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at his residence. Funeral services will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, March 18, at Prewitt Funeral Home in New Castle, KY, www.prewitts.com.

Golda L. Knight Jones, 79, of Laconia, IN, died Thursday, March 7, 2024, at Baptist Floyd Hospital in New Albany, IN. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ransdell Funeral Home in Campbellsburg, KY, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Stephen D. Kinman, 73, of Madison, IN, died Sunday, March 10, 2024, at Envive Health Care in Lawrenceburg, IN. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Morgan & Nay Funeral Centres in Madison, www.morgan-nay.com.

Patricia Nutgrass Norris, 62, of Bedford, KY, died Saturday, March 9, 2024, at her residence. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Ransdell Funeral Home in Bedford, www.ransdellfuneral.com.

Ruth Ellen Potter, 90, of Madison, IN, died Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at her daughter's residence in Indianapolis. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Madison, IN, www.lytlewelty.com.

Lawrence Wayne "Larry" Sherbahn, 90, of Madison, IN, died Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at his home. Memorial services will be at 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 14, at Morgan & Nay Funeral Centre in Madison, with military honors by the Major Samuel Woodfill Post No. 9 of the American Legion and interment to follow in the Indiana Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Madison, www.morgan-nay.com.

Louretta M. Thompson, 82, of Milton, KY, died Sunday, March 10, 2024, at The Waters of Clifty Falls in Madison, IN. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Lytle Welty Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Madison, IN, www.lytlewelty.com.

Maridell D. Waymire, 76, of Lexington, IN, died Saturday, March 2, 2024. Private graveside service will be held at a later date at Scottsburg Cemetery in Scottsburg, IN. Arrangements by Collins Funeral Home in Scottsburg, www.collinsfuneralhome.net.

Rocky Allen Webb, 63, of Pendleton, KY, died Tuesday, March 5, 2024. A celebration of life was held on Friday, March 8, at the James T. Beaumont Community Center in La Grange, KY. Arrangements by Heady-Radcliffe Funeral Home & Cremation Services in La Grange, www.heady-radcliffefuneralhome.com.

Howard Bruce Williams, 80, of Vevay, IN, died Sunday, March 10, 2024, at Norton King's Daughters' Health in Madison, IN. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Haskell & Morrison Funeral Home in Vevay, www.haskelandmorrison.com.

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The Farmstand

Taylor Williams

The Farmstand owners Jeffrey and Makala Bates and their children Aiden (14), Raelynn (11), Coleman (9), and Jordan (5) are Kentucky Proud.

Homegrown bakery cooking up big business plans

BY TAYLOR WILLIAMS
PAXTON MEDIA GROUP

Makala and Jeffrey Bates, owners of the new homegrown and handmade bakery "The Farmstand" are working on big plans for their family-owned baking business.

In operation since 2023, "The Farmstand" has already become quite popular in Carroll County. Based at the Bates Family home at 1409 Dividing Ridge Road in Sanders, Kentucky, the farm-home business lives by their mission statement: "Farmers supporting other farmers. Where community has access to homegrown, handmade products locally, 24/7."

Makala and Jeffrey both were born and raised in Carroll County and are graduates of Carroll County High School. They have four children who help on their farm and will eventually be involved in "The Farmstand": Aiden, Raelynn, Coleman and Jordan.

"The Farmstand" currently sells jams, jellies, herbs, local fresh produce as well as baked goods that don't require refrigeration, and more. The products are all made by Makala, who is a home-based processor in Kentucky.

"I can sell pretty much anything that you see at your local farmers market," she said. "Anything that I can produce myself, I will put in 'The Farmstand' and then anything that I can't, I will outsource from other local farmers or producers in the surrounding areas to help showcase them as well."

Somewhat to their surprise, the business has taken off rather well in the months since they began

Handout

A lineup of the Farmstand's homegrown and handmade bread.

operation. The community has been supportive and the work has been somewhat overwhelming, but overall encouraging, said Jeffrey. Makala added that community reaction has been inspirational and moving "because you see people supporting you so quickly."

The family has received help from other farmers, community members, and customers from Carrollton and even from other states who have helped them by offering advice or by simply buying their products.

Currently, the operation's biggest sponsor is Kentucky Proud, the statewide initiative to make and buy Kentucky-made products. According to Jeffrey, Kentucky Proud helps "to showcase local produce/products that's outside the tobacco scene to help farmers pay for other venues other than tobacco." He said that typically means support with marketing by helping create logos, T-shirts, signage, and helping pay for labeling and marketing if they put the Kentucky Proud logo on any merchandise. He said Kentucky Proud has been the easiest and most helpful group they have worked with.

"Anyone that makes anything or grows anything locally in Kentucky, they can become Kentucky Proud," Makala noted. "And there's so many benefits to becoming Kentucky Proud … It's an easy process and I would encourage anyone to become Kentucky Proud that grows their own food."

Based on early success, the couple is currently working on plans to relocate the business to its own location, which would include a refrigeration and freezer system that will allow "The Farmstand" to offer produce, milk, cheese, meat, and other items. Makala said they would like the business to become an agriculture tourism destination with educational events for Carroll County residents.

"I think a lot of people are interested more and more on where their food's coming from and they want it to be local — they just don't know where to start," she said, noting the plan could also include live music, movie nights, campfires, and local events.

Another plan is to develop a greenhouse capable of year-round locally grown produce that would be open to everyone. People would be able to walk through the greenhouse to pick their own food, or even see the family's cows and pasture. They hope to have this available and ready for the public before next winter.

Another plan is to qualify for a commercial produce license and begin supplying restaurants with locally produced, farm fresh items.

"We've already got a couple restaurants interested in using our produce once we get our license to sell produce commercially," Jeffrey said, noting their children will mainly be working in the greenhouse.

They are also currently working on a plan to offer a U-Pick garden, which they hope will come together in the spring and be open to the public. Patrons would visit the farm and be able to pick a variety of vegetables for the table and flowers to make any kind of bouquet. In the fall, the garden would produce pumpkins and sunflowers.

Makala added that one of their biggest goals is to develop a cafe or meeting place where they can accommodate larger groups for meetings or host ticketed farm-to-table events. They would also like to co-op with Carroll County High School or the agriculture department, and even offer field trips or classes.

"We would like to educate others on where their food comes from, how to support farmers, and how important it is to source your food locally," she said, adding that they want to show the rural side of Carroll County to the community.

Jeffrey said they want to show "how easy it is to produce your own food … and show people how interesting it really is to see your food grow."

For more information, visit The Farmstand Facebook page or contact the Bates family at thefarmstand.ky@icloud.com, or call Makala at 502-525-2087.

OWNER

FROM **PAGE A2**

the cleanup and be able to retain ownership of a site that he has owned for years but that Gilstrap has to continue showing progress and eventually get the site cleaned up to the satisfaction of the county ordinance.

"The other part of this discussion is that you continue to clean it up," Bramer said.

"You wouldn't believe the amount of stuff," Gilstrap said. "I'm kind of a hoarder and I've been there 40 years. It don't go away quick."

Bramer said Gilstrap has a month to get started and show progress and the Commissioners will expect a progress report at their April 4 meeting. He also addressed an unlicensed recreational vehicle that is parked on site contrary to the county ordinance and being used as a residence. Bramer said the RV is not connected to "appropriate hookups" and the person living there "is not supposed to be there."

Gilstrap said the RV is being used by a person who is "down on their luck" who comes into the house to use the bathroom or get water and he "would have staved to death if I hadn't let him stay there ... It makes no sense."

"The ordinance says you can only live in an RV 14 days without it moving and you cannot live permanently in an RV," Cline interjected.

"An RV is not for permanent occupancy and he's been there over a year," Bramer added.

In the end, Bramer laid out a three step plan for Gilstrap that included: pay what you owe; keep cleaning up the property and show us some progress; and come up with a plan to get the RV occupant to move.

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2A REGIONAL

Switzerland loses to Forest Park 58-53

BY DAVID CAMPBELL

SEYMOUR — Switzerland County's potential game-tying 3-pointer with less than 20 seconds to play went wide and Forest Park boys basketball escaped with a 58-53 win in the Class 2A Regional Championship at Seymour on Saturday.

The Pacers trailed most of the game but a frantic rally in the fourth quarter put them on the cusp of pulling out the victory. After a Jacob Williams basket closed the gap to 56-53 with 26 seconds to go, Forest Park missed two free throws to open the door for the Pacers.

Switzerland County put the ball in the hands of their star player, Cam Craig, and the junior lined up a 3-pointer that went just a bit wide. Forest Park picked up the rebound and hit two free throws on the other end to seal the win.

Although Switzerland County ended up losing the game, the Pacers left the floor with their heads held high, confident that they had done everything they could to secure a victory.

"I sure thought that shot was going to be on the mark," Switzerland coach Travis Wrightsman said with a small smile. "The guys just battled back and stayed with it and that's what they have done all season. Through all of the adversity we have gone through, they have stuck together and had a terrific season."

Switzerland County (15-11) was making its first regional appearance since 2013 and was seeking its first-ever win beyond the sectional level. Forest Park, meanwhile, was playing its third-straight regional and showed the confidence of a team that had been there before.

Photos by David Campbell

Switzerland County's Kadyn Riley (20) and Cooper Todd try to trap Forest Park's Reid Howard during the regional at Seymour on Saturday. The Pacers lost 58-53 to close out their season with a 15-11 record.

That confidence was apparent early. After a slow start by both teams, the Rangers ripped off a 13-0 run to build an 18-7 lead early in the second quarter and put the Pacers on the brink of an early knockout. Forest Park hit three 3-pointers during the run and clamped down on Craig, holding the star to just two free throws in the game's first 12 minutes.

But Switzerland has made a habit of coming back in games lately and Saturday was no exception. Craig broke away from Forest Park's hyper-aggressive defense to score seven-straight points and pull the Pacers to within four before heading into halftime down 26-19.

Forest Park (18-9) again pushed its lead to double-digits, getting seven points by Reid Howard early in the third quarter to extend the margin to 35-23, but the Pacers answered with nine-straight points of their own to close the gap to four points by the end of the quarter.

After trading baskets for the first four minutes of the fourth quarter, Switzerland finally got back-to-back baskets by Craig to pull the Pacers to within 47-46 with 3:07 to play. Forest Park responded with six-straight points to get the lead back to seven and seemingly put the game out of reach.

But Switzerland had one final run it in. Starting with a Craig 3-pointer, the Pacers began chipping away, finally cutting the deficit to three on Williams' hard basket in the lane off a Craig assist with 26 seconds to go.

Switzerland County's Cam Craig (33) shoots over Fores Park's Trevor Berg (22) and Reece Wolf (24) during the IHSAA Regional at Seymour on Saturday.

After the Forest Park missed the late free throws, Craig came down the floor and fired up a contested 3-pointer that missed. Switzerland had a shot at the offensive rebound but it wasn't to be. Jace Berg, who had missed the earlier free throws, sank both shots this time with 7.3 seconds left to give the Rangers their first regional title since 2018.

Despite constant defensive pressure, Craig finished with 28 points and closed out the year with a school-record 654 points over the 26-game season. He also had nine rebounds to finish with 256 boards on the season and tie Steve Sebree's school record set during the 1976-77 season.

"It takes some time for Cam to get going because it seems like here lately everybody's trying to do some things different with him," Wrightsman said. "He has started doing a better job but we kept telling him you got to keep moving without the ball better. And he started doing that. Some shots started falling for him and he started getting in a rhythm."

Jacob Williams finished with 11 points for the Pacers.

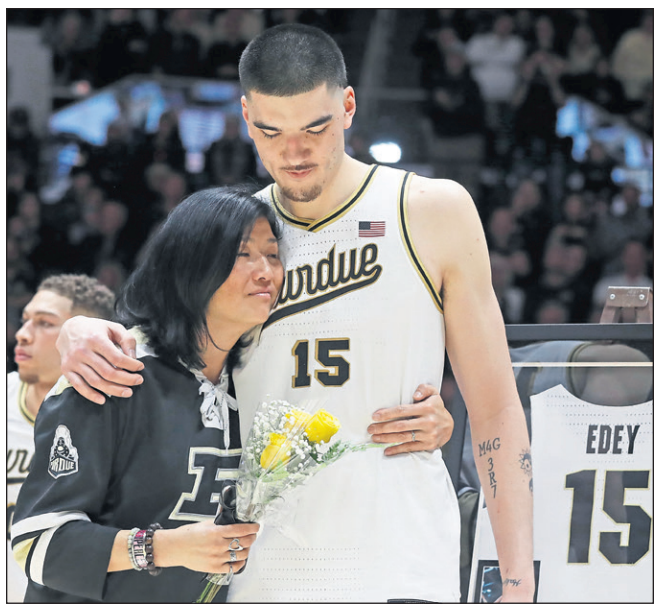
Craig was outshined by Forest Park's Howard, who hit six 3-pointers en route to a game-high 32 points. Jaxon Lueken added 11 points for the Rangers.

Forest Park will face Parke Heritage (23-5) in the semistate at Southport on Saturday with top-ranked Brownstown (25-4) facing No. 8 Park Tudor (20-5) in the second game. The championship will be held Saturday night.

Switzerland graduates four seniors — Williams, Bradley Romans, Canaan Johnson and Dylan Sullivan — but the future is bright in Vevay and Wrightsman can't wait to build on this season's success.

"The guys really showed a lot of heart and never gave up on each other. Like I told them in the locker room, I couldn't ask for a better group of guys," Wrightsman said. "They were just such a pleasure to work with. They always had smiles on their faces and always worked hard and always treated each other, the coaches and myself with respect and I'm really gonna miss that group."

Purdue retires Edey's jersey after home finale



Alex Martin/Journal — member, Journal & Courier

Purdue center Zach Edey (15) hugs his mother Julia Edey after the NCAA men's basketball game against Wisconsin, Sunday, March 10 at Mackey Arena in West Lafayette. Purdue won 78-70.

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST LAFAYETTE — Zach Edey had a banner day.

The 7-foot-4 Purdue senior withstood a physical onslaught from Wisconsin in his home finale, persevered and received a surprise reward: seeing his jersey number, 15, added to the Mackey Arena rafters.

Edey played through an injured left leg, finished with 25 points and 14 rebounds, became the first Big Ten player with 2,200 points and 1,200 rebounds and led No. 3 Purdue past Wisconsin 78-70 on Sunday. And then the Boilermakers surprised him by retiring his jersey.

"It's real cool. I had all my friends here from Toronto for like the first time," Edey said before addressing the emotions of the day. "It's my last game in Mackey."

And there was plenty to celebrate for Edey and Purdue (28-3, 17-3), winners of five straight.

Afterward, Edey stood arm in arm with his mother before addressing the crowd.

Before the game, coach Matt Painter presented point guard Braden Smith with a ceremonial ball for breaking Purdue's single-season assists record, which stood for nearly 50 years. Moments later, Purdue's pep band played "O Canada" as a Senior Day tribute to Edey, who's from Toronto.

"I've been trying to get them to do that for four years," Edey joked.

Edey needed less than five minutes to grab the three rebounds needed to reach 1,200. It took a little longer for the Boilermakers' six-player senior class to match Indiana's record for conference wins, 59, over a four-year period. Indiana did it from 1972-76.

Fletcher Loyer added 15 points and Smith added 10 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds for the Boilermakers, who won a second consecutive Big Ten title by at least three games.

John Blackwell scored 18 points for the Badgers (19-12, 11-9). Tyler Wahl had 17 points and 10 rebounds, and AJ Storr also scored 17.

"I thought we did a lot of good things offensively," Badgers coach Greg Gard said. "That's a tough team. I would say you can't get a consistent diet of things in the paint just because of his presence."

Purdue certainly tried to fight off Edey near the basket, fouling him 11 times. And it looked like Edey's presence might be short-lived when he limped gingerly to the bench with an apparent left leg injury and Purdue leading 17-9. He finished the half on the bench because of foul trouble.

And after Loyer's four-point play helped stake Purdue to a 40-26 lead,

SEE **HOME/PAGE B7**

Votto agrees to minor league contract with hometown Toronto

TORONTO — Former NL MVP Joey Votto says he has agreed to a minor league contract with his hometown Toronto Blue Jays.

The 40-year-old first baseman became a free agent last fall after the end of a $251.5 million, 12-year contract with the Cincinnati Reds, his only team over 17 major league seasons.

"I am excited about the opportunity to work my way back to the Major Leagues. It's even sweeter to attempt this while wearing the uniform of my hometown team, the Toronto Blue Jays," Votto wrote Friday on X.

There was no immediate announcement by the team.

Votto hit .202 with 14 homers and 38 RBIs in 65 games last year. He didn't play his first game until June 19, 10 months to the day after surgery on his left biceps and rotator cuff.

A six-time All-Star and the 2010 NL MVP, Votto has a .294 average with 356 homers, 1,144 RBIs and a .409 on-base percentage in 2,056 games.

Cincinnati declined his $20 million option for 2024.

LOCAL SPORTS CALENAR

MARCH 12

BASEBALL
Trimble Co. at Dayton, 6 p.m.

LACROSSE
Hanover men at Centre, 7 p.m.

SOFTBALL
Trimble Co. at Sacred Heart, 5:30 p.m.

TENNIS
Carroll Co. hosts Trimble Co., 5 p.m.

MARCH 13

BASEBALL
Hanover at Wilmington, 3 p.m.
Carroll Co. hosts Shelby Co., 5:45 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL
Madison boys at Jeffersonville, 7 p.m.

MARCH 14

BASEBALL
Carroll Co. hosts Calvary Christian, 5:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL
Madison hosts Jennings Co. (scrimmage), 5:30 p.m.
Carroll Co. at Central, 6 p.m.
Trimble Co. at Pleasure Ridge Park, 6 p.m.

TENNIS
Carroll Co. hosts Henry Co., 5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL
Madison boys host Scottsburg, 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 15

BASEBALL
Trimble Co. at Frankfort Christian, 6 p.m.

HANOVER ROUNDUP

Panthers take 2 in baseball series in Mississippi

BY THE COURIER STAFF

Hanover College baseball won two out of three on a road trip to Bellhaven (Miss.) over the weekend.

The Panthers won 5-3 in the opener on Friday with two runs in the top of the ninth. Eric Roudebush was 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs, Alex Christie was 2-for-5 with a double and Connor Farnsley had two hits. Marcus Goodpaster struck out six in eight innings to get the win and Jaden Siemer pitched around two hits in the ninth for the save.

Robert Carroll singled in the winning run in the top of the 10th inning and Reid Douglas went 3-for-3 with a double and a triple as Hanover claimed a 2-1 in the first game on Saturday. Chris Hautman picked up the win with three innings in relief.

Hanover suffered an 8-7 loss in eight innings in the finale on Saturday. Christie went 2-for-3 with three RBIs and Ashton Dickmann suffered the loss in relief.

Hanover, now 7-3 on the season, travels to Wilmington on Wednesday and heads to Wabash for three games starting on Saturday.

MEN'S LACROSSE GETS WIN

Hanover men's lacrosse posted a 6-3 win at Heidelberg on Saturday.

Colin O'Brien had two goals while Owen Parker and Ethan Abdoo had a goal and an assist each. Jackson McKeigue had 11 saves for the win.

Hanover, now 3-3 on the season, travels to Centre on Tuesday and heads to Wabash on Saturday.

SOFTBALL SPLITS WITH SPALDING

Hanover softball split a doubleheader at Spalding on Thursday in Louisville.

The Panthers claimed a 9-0 win in six innings in the opener. LauRie Harmless went 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs and Mal Fultz had a double and two RBIs and Alex Miller had a hit and two RBIs for Hanover. Lauren Beaman tossed a two-hit shutout with one strikeout for the win.

SEE **SERIES/PAGE B7**

Cats knock off Vols in regular season finale

Darrell Bird/The Cats' Pause

Reed Sheppard made 7-of-10 3-pointers on the way to 27 points in Kentucky's 85-81 win at Tennessee on Saturday.

BY AL LESAR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Antonio Reeves and Reed Sheppard each scored 27 points as No. 15 Kentucky spoiled No. 4 Tennessee's late season run with an 85-81 victory Saturday.

The Wildcats (23-8, 13-5 Southeastern Conference) have now won five in a row and seven of their last eight. The win wrapped up a double-bye in the SEC Tournament. Sheppard came off the bench to hit six 3-pointers in the second half and seven for the game. Justin Edwards scored 16 and Rob Dillingham had 11.

"(Reeves) is a high-level scorer," said Tennessee coach Rick Barnes. "He does a good job getting in the right position. He's surrounded by guys who can play. They were able to get the angles on us."

The Volunteers (24-7, 14-4) were led by SEC Player of the Year candidate Dalton Knecht with a career-high 40 points. Zakai Zeigler had 17 points and nine assists. Jonas Aidoo had 11 points, eight rebounds and five blocks.

"Knecht went absolutely bonkers on us," said Kentucky coach John Calipari.

"I told (Knecht) he needed to get his teammates involved," said Barnes. "The defense was getting into him pretty good."

The Vols made it close. With 2:35 left in the game, Sheppard's last 3-pointer gave Kentucky an 80-69 lead. From there, the Vols whittled it down to 84-81 with 31 seconds to play. A 3-pointer and 3-point play by Zeigler were critical. Josiah-Jordan James missed a 3-pointer that would have tied the game. With 5.9 seconds left, Dillingham hit a free throw to ice the win.

"(James' missed 3-pointer) was a wide-open shot," Barnes said. "It just didn't go down."

"It doesn't matter what the score is, (the Vols) think they're going to win," said Calipari. "That's a veteran team."

Tennessee, which clinched the SEC title Wednesday, had its seven-game winning streak snapped. While battling for a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament, the Vols had wins over top SEC contenders Alabama, Auburn and South Carolina the last two weeks.

"I really hope this is one we can learn from," said Barnes. "We were way too emotional. We've had a brutal three weeks."

Edwards hit three straight 3-pointers to lead Kentucky to a 31-20 lead with 2:45 left in the first half. Knecht went on a tear, scoring seven straight points. Tennessee trailed 33-29 at the break.

The Vols shot just 8 of 32 in the first half. Knecht had five of the baskets and 19 points.

THE TAKEAWAY

Kentucky: The Wildcats came into Rocky Top having won six of their last seven. The only blemish was a last-second loss at LSU. …. Freshmen guards Dillingham and Sheppard are starting to blossom and are solid complementary pieces to the veteran Reeves heading into the postseason. … Kentucky entered the game ranked No. 189 in team defensive efficiency.

Tennessee: With the SEC title already secured, the Vols are playing for NCAA Tournament seeding. They are on the bubble between the last No. 1 seed and the first No. 2. That won't be decided until after the conference tourney is completed. … Tennessee's schedule is ranked the fourth toughest in the country while Kentucky is No. 32.

UP NEXT

Kentucky and Tennessee will both play in the SEC Tournament.

Boston College holds off Louisville

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Claudell Harris Jr. scored 18 points and he and Devin McGlockton led a key second-half run in Boston College's 67-61 victory over Louisville on Saturday.

Harris and McGlockton scored five points each in a 12-0 run that gave the Eagles a 53-37 lead early in the second half. Skyy Clark scored the next six points for Louisville, but the Cardinals trailed by double digits for most of the half until the final stretch.

The Cardinals made one field goal in the last six minutes but got their deficit under 10 points for the final 3:50. They made 23 of 28 free throws to keep from being blown out. Boston College made 9 of 14 from the line.

Boston College won despite making only one field goal in the final six minutes and scoring three points in the final four minutes.

Harris made four 3-pointers and McGlockton had two. They each had eight rebounds. Quinten Post added 10 points for the Eagles (17-14, 8-12 ACC).

Brandon Huntley-Hatfield had 14 points and nine rebounds for Louisville (8-23, 3-17) and Clark scored 11.

A 17-1 run over a near five-minute stretch early in the first half gave Boston College a 17-5 lead near the 14-minute mark. Later, Ty-Laur Johnson scored seven straight Louisville points and the Cardinals got within 21-18 with nine minutes to go in the half.

The Cardinals went without a field goal for a second long stretch, making four free throws in a 17-4 Boston College run that lasted for seven minutes. The Eagles led 41-31 at halftime.

Louisville's bench outscored the starters 19-12 in the first half.

Boston College had lost four in a row before beating Miami and Louisville to close the regular season. The Eagles also defeated Miami and Louisville back-to-back in February. The win assured them of avoiding the bottom four of the conference. Louisville finished last.

The ACC Tournament begins on Tuesday at Capital One Arena in Washington.

Ware lifts Hoosiers to win over Spartans

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BLOOMINGTON — Kel'el Ware had 28 points, 12 rebounds and the go-ahead free throw to lead Indiana to a 65-64 victory over Michigan State on Sunday as the Hoosiers wrapped up the Big Ten regular season with their fourth consecutive win.

The score was tied three times in the final three minutes. The last tie was at 64 on a driving layup by MSU's Tyson Walker with 1:28 remaining. After a series of misses, Ware made one of two free throws and the Hoosiers led 65-64 with 17 seconds left.

Walker missed a jumper with 4 seconds left and Indiana rebounded to run out the clock.

Ware scored 19 points in the second half, making 9 of 13 shots. For the game, he missed his first five foul shots before connecting on the sixth. Malik Reneau added 16 points and Mackenzie Mgbako had 13. Only five players scored for the Hoosiers (18-13, 10-10 Big Ten).

Walker scored 30 points for Michigan State (18-13, 10-10). Jaden Akins and A.J. Hoggard added 10 points each.

The Hoosiers got 10 points each from Reneau and Mgbako in the first half and led 34-29 at halftime. Indiana had an early 20-5 lead and maintained a double-digit advantage until the Spartans' Walker and Malik Hall combined to score the last eight points of the half.

The Spartans scored the first 11 points of the second half, stretching their scoring run to 19 in a row and taking a 43-36 lead. Indiana chipped away at the lead and eventually went ahead 56-55 on Xavier Johnson's 3-pointer near the eight-minute mark. Ninety seconds later, a dunk by Ware gave the Hoosiers a 58-57 advantage and Michigan State never regained the lead.

Source: Colts agree to 3-year, $70 million deal with Pittman Jr.

BY MICHAEL MAROT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis Colts general manager Chris Ballard did everything he could to keep receiver Michael Pittman Jr. off this year's free agent market.

On Monday, he completed the job.

Two weeks after promising Pittman would be in Indy next season — one way or the other — the two sides were closing in on a three-year, $70 million deal with $46 million in guarantees, a person with knowledge of the negotiations told The Associated Press. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the deal is being finalized.

It was no surprise given Ballard's repeated praise of Pittman's productivity, toughness over the middle and leadership inside the locker room. And at age 26, there's still room for growth, too.

"He wants to win and when you're a good player, part of that is you want the football," Ballard said during the NFL's annual scouting combine. "I don't know if I want to be around a guy that doesn't want the ball. That's OK. There's a way to do it, a right way to do it, but it's one of the things I appreciate about Pitt. The one thing you never have to worry about with that guy is he empties the tank. He absolutely empties the tank."

Incentives could add another $1.5 million to the deal's total value.

When Pittman last spoke, in January, he said his agent wanted to wait until after the season to resume negotiations.

Associated Press

Indianapolis Colts wide receiver Michael Pittman Jr. catches a pass before a game against the New Orleans Saints on Oct. 29, 2023, in Indianapolis.

Ballard, meanwhile, continually said he hoped to complete a fair-market deal with Pittman before free agency officially opens Wednesday. It was Ballard's top offseason priority.

"I know we're going to have a few free agents you're all going to want to talk about and I'm probably going to give you the same answer — I would like to have them all back," Ballard said in January. "But it doesn't work that way. It's just the nature of what we do. Pitt is a good football player for us and hopefully he remains a Colt."

Pittman has 336 catches, 3,636 yards and 15 TDs and 11 carries for 100 yards and four more scores since the Colts drafted him No. 30 overall in 2020.

He's also coming off his best season in Indy. He had 109 receptions and 1,152 yards, both career bests, to go with four TD catches. Pittman became the fourth player in franchise history with 100 receptions in one season while logging his second 1,000-yard season despite missing one full game and part of another following a scary hit that resulted in a concussion and the ejection of Pittsburgh Steelers safety Damontae Kazee.

Still, Pittman wanted to see what he was worth.

"Speaking to the contract stuff, I made it this far so — I've loved my four years here," Pittman said at the end of last season. "But I wouldn't be doing my due diligence if I didn't explore every option and find the best fit."

Yet Ballard remained hopeful of reaching a multi-year deal with the former Southern California star and the son of a Super Bowl champion.

The deal assures Indy will keep its three most prominent playmakers — quarterback Anthony Richardson, 2021 NFL rushing champion Jonathan Taylor and Pittman — together through at least 2026. Richardson was the No. 4 overall pick in last year's draft.

Last season, injuries limited that trio to only two snaps together.

Taylor opened the season on the physically unable to perform list with a lingering ankle injury.

Richardson only appeared in four games and only finished one because of injuries. He had season-ending shoulder surgery in October and has recently resumed throwing.

Ballard's job may only be beginning, too.

Pro Bowl cornerback Kenny Moore II, starting defensive tackle Grover Stewart and starting safety Julian Blackmon also could hit the open market Wednesday. Plus, quarterback Gardner Minshew and running back Zack Moss can become free agents after playing productive roles in backing up Richardson and Taylor in 2023.

COURIERAREA SPORTS SHORTS

BY THE COURIER STAFF

• Shawe senior Zachary Gish and Jacob Hertz have been named Academic All-State honorable mention for boys basketball.

To be eligible for this honor, players had to have higher than a 3.5 GPA, be in the top 25% of their class and have an SAT score higher than 1100.

• Switzerland County seventh grade girls basketball won the Tri-County Tournament on Thursday.

The Pacers defeated St. Lawrence 27-26 in overtime in the championship.

Claire Boggs had 12 points and Rylen Kitts nine for the Pacers.

Switzerland ends the season with a 13-8 record.

• Applications for the 2024 Hanover Parks Department baseball and softball leagues are now being accepted.

Leagues for kids ages three through 12 are available. Cost is $30 with a second child for $25 and a third child for $20. Deadline is March 27 and all applications received by that date are guaranteed a roster spot.

LOCAL LEAGUES

HANOVER MEN'S SPRING BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Sunday, March 10

Patton's Pistols 88, Madison Tool & Die Twisted Metal 42 — Terry Stewart had 35 points and Brady Patton 27 for the Pistols. Eric Reffet had 14 for Twisted Metal.

Patton's Pistols 103, All American Rejects 75 — Terry Stewart had 33 points and Nick Sebastio 23 for the Pistols. Camden Bentley had 28 and Calyb Bentley 19 for the Rejects.

The GBA Ballers 80, Teencie TV 66 — Danny Gibson had 25 points for the Ballers. Dawson Eastes had 15 for Teencie TV.

Gremlins 117, Mavericks 83 — Noah Hart had 45 and Jordan Knoebel 30 for the Gremlins. Chancey May had 27 for the Mavericks.

Paws & Play 62, Layman Insurance 51 — Gavin Lambert and Jordan Myers each scored 16 for Paws & Play. Matt Sparkman had 21 for Layman.

Pakalana Poke Wagon Run 'N Gun 121, Team Solid 97 — Carson Roark scored a league-record 50 points, Dalton Hardy had 36 and Foster Mefford 24 for Run 'N Gun. Terrell Boyd had 27, Kyle Amburgey 22 and Brandon Smith 21 for Team Solid.

Bell pulls out an emotional win for Joe Gibbs Racing at Phoenix

BY JOHN MARSHALL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Associated Press

Christopher Bell, center, celebrates after his NASCAR Cup Series auto race win at Phoenix Raceway on Sunday in Avondale, Ariz.

AVONDALE, Ariz. — Christopher Bell and the rest of Joe Gibbs Racing have been through more than their share of heartbreak in the desert.

Owner Joe Gibbs' son, the team's vice chairman, died unexpectedly in Phoenix two years ago. Last fall, a broken brake rotor spoiled Bell's NASCAR Cup Series championship hopes in the Valley of the Sun.

Winning at Phoenix Raceway will never erase the anguish, but it's certainly another step in the healing process.

Bell surged into the lead when Martin Truex Jr. was forced to pit and then pulled away for an emotional NASCAR Cup Series win at Phoenix Raceway on Sunday.

"This one feels really good," Bell said. "You don't get cars like that very often, as you know. Just super, super proud to be on this 20 car."

JGR has been through a whirlwind of emotions in Phoenix.

In 2022, hours after Ty Gibbs won an Xfinity season championship for his grandfather's team, vice chairman Coy Gibbs was found dead in his hotel room. Ty's father was 49.

Bell and JGR returned to Phoenix Raceway in November as part of the championship four vying for the Cup Series title. Instead of mending emotions, the team left dejected after Bell's car broke early in the race.

Given another shot, Bell held his emotions in check and the crew gave him the fastest car on a perfect afternoon in the desert that ended with a massive celebration on victory lane.

"It is a little bit cathartic," Bell's crew chief Adam Stevens said.

Bell's win in the No. 20 Toyota also ended Chevrolet's perfect start to the season after winning the first three races. He is the eighth different winner in eight races at Phoenix Raceway's mile tri-oval.

Chris Buescher finished second after being wrecking 27 laps into last week's race in Las Vegas and Ty Gibbs was third for his career-best finish. Brad Keselowski and Ryan Blaney rounded out the top five.

"We had a rough go last week," Buescher said. "This was good to get everybody back to prove that we're in this together and we're going to win one of these things as a team."

The Phoenix race marked the debut of NASCAR's new aerodynamics package for short tracks in hopes of producing more passing on tracks of a mile or less and road courses. Goodyear also produced tires with thicker treads designed to retain heat and increase lap-time falloff.

Starting 13th, Bell took advantage of the changes, overcoming a slow pit stop to charge back to the front. Bell moved into the lead with 40 laps to go when leader Truex had to pit for fuel and tires.

Bell led the final 49 laps for his seventh career Cup Series victory — first since Homestead in October.

"I drove a rocket ship today," Bell said. "It just took off."

Truex and his crew made calculated gamble on lap 217, opting to stay out when most of the leaders went into the pits.

The JGR driver stayed in the lead, hoping he would have enough fuel and his tires would hold out long enough to reach the checkered flag. Neither happened and Truex was forced to the pits. He finished seventh.

HAMLIN SPINS

Pole sitter Denny Hamlin took advantage of having the first stall to twice take the lead out of the pits, but ran into trouble with about 100 laps left.

Trying to pass Reddick, Hamlin's No. 11 car got loose and he spun out, causing a caution that sent most of the cars to the pits. Hamlin dropped to 23rd after a pit stop and finished 11th.

"Just got in too deep and tried not to wreck him," Hamlin said. "Just ended up wrecking ourselves."

CINDRIC'S BAD LUCK

Austin Cindric had an early end to his day, a week after a spinout knocked him well back in the pack at Las Vegas.

Cindric completed six laps at Phoenix Raceway before being involved in a wreck with Austin Dillon and Derek Kraus. Dillon and Kraus were able to return to the track, but Cindric's car was damaged too much.

Cindric finished 29th at Las Vegas and was in contention at the Daytona 500 before getting caught up in a late wreck.

"I felt like I got hit twice," Cindric said. "I knew the 3 (Dillon) was on the inside, but I thought he would fall back but he came back up. It's just a product of not qualifying well."

UP NEXT

The Cup Series heads to Bristol Motor Speedway in Tennessee next weekend.

Pacers top Orlando, close within a game of Magic in the East

BY DICK SCANLON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO, Fla. — Once the Indiana Pacers started running, they were hard to stop.

Tyrese Haliburton and Pascal Siakam each scored 20 points and the Pacers beat Orlando 111-97 on Sunday night to close within a game of the Magic in the Eastern Conference standings.

Paolo Banchero had 19 points for Orlando, Cole Anthony added 16 and Wendell Carter had 13 points and 15 rebounds.

Indiana fell behind by 15 points early, but the game changed abruptly when T.J. McConnell and Obi Toppin came off the bench. They scored 17 points each for the Pacers. McConnell also contributed six assists.

"T.J. McConnell gave us a great left when he came into the game because we were struggling to score," Pacers coach Rick Carlisle said. "He got to the rim a few times and really boosted our energy from there."

The highest-scoring team in the NBA, Indiana had only 18 points in the first quarter. Haliburton's basket with 6:49 left in the second quarter marked his first points of the game and the Pacers' only 3-pointer of the first half. After making only seven of their first 23 shots, the Pacers finished the game at 49.4%.

"We understand that we're one of the best teams in transition, and the only way we can get transition buckets is getting stops," Toppin said. "I felt we locked into getting those stops which allowed us to get a lot more transition points."

The Pacers moved ahead for keeps on a 3-pointer by Aaron Nesmith early in the second half. They led by 15 by the end of the third quarter, and Toppin's layup early in the fourth gave Indiana its biggest lead of the game, 99-83.

"We just didn't do a great job of having that sense of urgency, to sprint back," Anthony said. "I know Toppin had five or six layups where he just outran everyone down the court. That can't happen. That's their style. They're comfortable in it. We let them play their game."

The Magic have dropped two in a row for the first time since Jan. 22-26. They shot 37.5% after scoring 128 and 117 points in victories at Indiana in November and December.

"We're a very good running team, and that's well documented," Carlisle said. "What we needed tonight was a much higher level of determination than we had in the first two games against these guys."

The Pacers played for the first time since learning that Bennedict Mathurin will miss the rest of the season after having shoulder surgery.

The Magic played without Jalen Suggs (thigh contusion) and Markelle Fultz (left knee strain). Caleb Houstan started in place of Suggs and did not score in 22 minutes.

The Magic had won 13 of 17 and were beginning a stretch of games in which they will have played 10 of 11 at home. They scored a then-NBA season-low 74 points in a loss at New York on Friday night.

"That's part of this league. Once you get comfortable you can get knocked right off your feet, and I think that's what's happened to us these last two games," Anthony said.

UP NEXT

The Pacers visit Oklahoma City on Tuesday night.

Wilson agrees to 1-year deal with Steelers

BY ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

Russell Wilson is heading to the Pittsburgh Steelers.

The nine-time Pro Bowl quarterback has agreed to sign a one-year deal with the Steelers, a person familiar with the details told The Associated Press on Sunday night.

The person, speaking on condition of anonymity because the contract hasn't been finalized, said Wilson will receive the veteran's minimum of $1.21 million while the Denver Broncos pay the remainder of his $39 million salary.

Wilson posted his intentions on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, saying: "Year 13. Grateful. (at)Steelers."

The 35-year-old Wilson was 11-19 in two seasons with the Broncos after being acquired in a trade from Seattle. He bounced back from a dreadful 2022 season and threw 3,070 yards, 26 touchdowns and only eight interceptions, but still lost his job to Jarrett Stidham after going 7-8 in coach Sean Payton's first season last year.

Wilson led Seattle to eight playoff appearances and a Super Bowl title in 10 seasons with the Seahawks.

The Steelers lost a wild-card playoff game with Mason Rudolph as their starting quarterback. Rudolph went 3-0 after replacing Kenny Pickett, who was 7-5 before going down with an injury. Mitch Trubisky started the other two games and went 0-2.

Pittsburgh is scheduled to play the Broncos in Denver this upcoming season — and the game could feature a return by Wilson. The NFL is expected to release its league schedule in May.

Last week, the Broncos informed Wilson they'd release him when the new league year begins Wednesday — but gave him permission to speak to other teams.

"We thank Russell for his contributions and dedications to our team and community while wishing him the best as he continues his career," the team posted on its social media channels last week, adding, "We are excited to improve this offseason and will have the flexibility to get better through the draft and free agency."

After signing a nearly quarter-billion dollar extension before playing a down in Denver, Wilson contended the Broncos had threatened to bench him for the final nine games last season if he didn't push back his $37 million injury guarantee in his contract.

Pacers' Mathurin to have season-ending right shoulder surgery

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESSI

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana Pacers guard Bennedict Mathurin will have surgery to repair a torn labrum in his right shoulder and will miss the rest of the season.

The Pacers said Saturday that the procedure will be performed next week in Los Angeles by Dr. Neal ElAttrache.

Mathurin was averaging 14.5 points in his second NBA season. He was the MVP of the Rising Stars Challenge at All-Star weekend, which was played in Indianapolis.

A first-team selection to the All-Rookie team last season, Mathurin had 19 points Tuesday in a victory at Dallas before he was injured.

The Pacers added that he was expected to fully recover in time for the 2024-25 season.

NFL free agency explained from salary cap and tampering to tags

BY ROB MAADDI
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

The NFL's free agency frenzy kicks off Monday with a 52-hour legal tampering period ahead of the official start of the new league year on Wednesday.

Several star players, including Vikings quarterback Kirk Cousins and Giants running back Saquon Barkley, will be free to sign a contract with a new team.

Here's an explanation of rules and terms:

WHAT DOES LEGAL TAMPERING MEAN?

At 12 p.m. EDT on Monday, teams can start negotiating with players who will become unrestricted free agents when their contracts expire at the start of the new league year on 4 p.m. EDT on Wednesday. Players can't sign with new teams until the league year officially begins. The two-day negotiating period applies only to players who will be unrestricted free agents.

WHO ARE UNRESTRICTED FREE AGENTS?

Any player with four or more accrued seasons — six or more regular-season games on a club's active/inactive, reserve/injured or reserve/physically unable to perform lists — whose contract has expired becomes an unrestricted free agent and may negotiate and sign with any team.

WHO ARE RESTRICTED FREE AGENTS?

Restricted free agents are players with three accrued seasons who have received a qualifying offer when their current deals expire on Wednesday.

WHAT IS A FRANCHISE TAG?

Each team can designate one potential free agent a franchise player. Eight players received the tag.

An exclusive franchise player is not free to sign with another club and is offered the greater of the average of the top five salaries at the player's position for the current year as of the end of the restricted free agent signing period on April 19; or the amount of the required tender for a non-exclusive franchise player.

A non-exclusive franchise player can sign with another team, but that club will owe his previous team two first-round draft picks. All the players tagged this year are non-exclusive.

The time frame to sign franchise players is March 13 until Nov. 12.

WHAT IS A TRANSTION TAG?

The transition tag is a one-year offer for the average of top 10 salaries at the position. It guarantees the original club the right of first refusal to match any offer the player might receive from another team.

The tagging team is awarded no compensation if it chooses not to match a deal. The time frame to sign transition players is from March 13 until July 22.

Only one player — Patriots safety Kyle Dugger — received the transition tag this year.

Teams can decide to withdraw franchise and transition tags and the player automatically becomes an unrestricted free agent.

WHAT IS THE SALARY CAP FOR 2024?

The salary cap is $255,400,000 per team, up from $224.8 million last year. Teams must be under the salary cap by the 4 p.m. EDT on Wednesday.

WHAT IS SALARY CAP ROLLOVER?

A team may carry over salary cap space from one league year to the following league year by submitting notice to the NFL prior to 4 p.m. EDT on the day following the team's final regular-season game. A team can carry over 100% of its remaining 2023 room to its adjusted salary cap for 2024.

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Horan's 1st half goal leads US over Brazil

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO — Lindsey Horan scored on a header in first-half stoppage time and the United States went on to beat Brazil 1-0 on Sunday to win the CONCACAF Women's Gold Cup.

The United States lifted the trophy despite being stunned by a loss to Mexico in the group stage of the tournament. It was the first women's Gold Cup, created to bring teams in the region more meaningful competition.

"It was a difficult game. Brazil challenged us in a different way," Horan said. "I'm really, really proud of us finding a way to get a goal and finishing out the game and getting a trophy."

It was the fourth time that the United States faced Brazil in a tournament final. The Americans also won the previous three, including the 2004 and 2008 Olympics.

The game drew a sellout crowd of 31,528 to San Diego's Snapdragon Stadium, a record crowd for a CONCACAF women's match.

Horan scored just moments into stoppage time with a header off a well-placed lofted pass from Emily Fox. It was Horan's third goal of the tournament, her earlier goals were from the penalty spot.

Lynn Williams nearly scored a second for the United States in the 79th minute but the play was offsides. Casey Krueger headed out a dangerous Brazilian cross in the final moments.

Brazil outshot the United States 12-7 and at times appeared the more dominant team.

"It's not always pretty, and this was a game that we just grinded through." defender Crystal Dunn said. "We got the job done and that's the most important."

The United States was upset in the group stage of the tournament by a 2-0 loss to Mexico — just the second loss in the 43-game series.

The Americans rebounded with a 3-0 win over Colombia in the quarterfinals, before advancing to the final on penalties after a rain-soaked 2-2 draw with Canada in the semifinals.

"That was a crazy tournament, but finished strong," forward Alex Morgan said. "That's what mattered. So many players coming up big time."

Brazil, which was one of four CONMEBOL teams in the tournament, had won each of its five matches in the tournament, including a 3-0 victory over Mexico in the semifinals, scoring 15 goals.

The Brazilians allowed just two total goals in the team's first competitive tournament under coach Arthur Elias, who took over for Pia Sundhage after Brazil failed to get out of the group stage at summer's Women's World Cup.

"The American players are very strong physically speaking and I believe that we had a great performance during the game," Elias said through a translator after the game. "We had chances to score goals today. The U.S. had some strengths that we were able to stop, but they were very well prepared as well to play our team today."

Likewise, the United States was playing its first tournament under interim coach Twila Kilgore, who assumed her role after the U.S. parted ways with coach Vlatko Andonovski following the team's early exit from the World Cup.

The United States hired Emma Hayes as the team's coach, but she is concluding the season with Chelsea in the Women's Super League.

"I'm just so happy for the team," Kilgore said. "This is a team and a program that will always have attention and expectations on it. We always say that pressure is a privilege and it is, but it's another thing to walk the walk."

Both Brazil and the United States have qualified for this summer's Olympics in France.

Clark sparks Iowa to title 3-peat at Big Ten tourney

94-89 OT over Nebraska

BY DAVE CAMPBELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MINNEAPOLIS — Caitlin Clark overcame a cold start to score 30 of her 34 points after halftime and help third-ranked Iowa rally past Nebraska 94-89 in overtime to win a third straight Big Ten Tournament on Sunday.

"It never gets old cutting the net," Clark said after black and gold confetti covered the court at Target Center to the delight of another sellout crowd packed with Hawkeyes fans. "I feel like we're pretty good at that."

Hannah Stuelke had 25 points and nine rebounds for Iowa (29-4), which trailed by 13 points late in the first half while their superstar Clark missed all nine of her 3-point attempts.

"You can maybe keep Caitlin down for a half. You're not keeping her down for a whole game," Hawkeyes coach Lisa Bluder said.

The all-time NCAA leading scorer finished 5 for 17 from deep, had 12 assists and hit the dagger 3-pointer with 51 seconds left in OT for an 89-87 lead just 16 seconds after Logan Nissley's 3-pointer put the Cornhuskers in front.

"I knew some shots were going to go in," Clark said. "That's just how it works."

Alexis Markowski had 23 points and 13 rebounds to lead Nebraska (22-11) in a valiant performance that fell short of a second victory over Iowa this season. The Huskers beat the Hawkeyes 82-79 on Feb. 11.

"Nobody else did, but we expected to win," said Nebraska coach Amy Williams, who had tears streaming down her face at the postgame interview podium as she praised Nissley's effort after her red-eyed players choked up during some of their remarks.

Natalie Potts had 21 points and nine rebounds for the Huskers, who led 75-67 with 2 ½ minutes to go in regulation, before Clark drained one of her signature stepback 3-pointers. Her layup in traffic tied the game with 29 seconds left.

Nebraska played for the final shot, and Nissley's baseline jumper was short at the buzzer. Clark waved her arms at the Iowa-dominated sellout crowd, yelling: "Come on! Five more minutes!"

The Hawkeyes were well aware of Jaz Shelley — who had 16 points and 13 assists — on that last possession of regulation after the Australian hit a 3-pointer with 30 seconds left in their last meeting.

"They tightened things up," Williams said. "I would've, too."

The Huskers played their fourth game in four days, beating Purdue, Michigan State and Maryland to reach the conference final for the first time in 10 years. Despite the 11 a.m. Central tipoff and the lost hour for the daylight saving time clock change, they sure didn't lack for energy.

These regional rivals — one fan clutched a clever sign that read, "Iowa has better corn!" — from the conference's soon-to-be-stretched-way-out western edge played a rugged and fierce game befitting their grind-it-out matchups on the football field. Bodies banged hard against the floor often, and the pushing for position around the basket was intense.

Markowski and Potts, the Big Ten Freshman of the Year award winner, played fearlessly inside after Iowa commanded a 54-16 points-in-the-paint advantage on Michigan the day before. Clark mostly found her usual playable looks at the hoop, but the long ball just wasn't her friend. The Hawkeyes matched every bit of the Huskers' fire, though, and made sure they stayed within striking range by getting the ball to the basket as much as they could and locking down on defense.

"That's probably what I'm most proud of, that we found a different way to win," Clark said.

Clark immediately bit into Nebraska's 46-35 halftime lead by hitting a stepback jumper from the foul line. Her first deep shot finally fell when she drifted right off the break and swished a pullup from the wing to bring Iowa within 48-42, and she pumped her fist with a slight smile on the way back.

Curling off high screens was a recipe for success. Clark gave the Hawkeyes their first lead since 5-4 when she did just that off a pass from Kate Martin — who hit all three of her 3-pointers after the third quarter — and smoothly drove in for a layup that made it 53-52.

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TUESDAY EVENING

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Night	Extend..	The Voice (N)		Password (SP)		WAV..
4 WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	FBI (N)		FBI: Int (N)		FBI-Wanted (N)		CBS4..
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Night	Extend..	The Voice (N)		Password (SP)		News
8 WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	Crime Nat "Dynasty of Death" (N)				News (N)		News
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Will Trent		The Rookie		Good Dr		News
11 WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Will Trent		The Rookie		Good Dr		News
15 WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	NewsHour (N)		Roots		Experience		Frontline (N)		BBCN..
19 WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Cleaning (N)		Alert (N)		FOX19 (N)		FOX19
32 WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	FBI (N)		FBI: Int (N)		FBI-Wanted (N)		News
34 WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	House..	Sheldon	BigBa..	Crime Nat "Dynasty of Death" (N)				BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..
41 WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Cleaning (N)		Alert (N)		News (N) (Live)		News
A&E	28	36	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Road..	Custo..	Custo..	Road..
AMC	29	26	(5:30) ✯★★★ Lethal Weapon 2				✯★★★ Lethal Weapon 3 ('92) Mel Gibson.				✯ Lethal Weap...		
COM	45	59	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office	DailyS..
DISC	31	38	Afraid "Death by Crocodile"				Afraid "Colombian Cave Women"				Naked and Afraid		
DISN	25	29	Hamst..	Hamst..	Big City	Big City	Hailey	Hailey	Marvel..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Villains
ESPN	32	44	SportCtr (N)		College Basketball				College Basketball				Sports..
FREE	18	40	(:15) ✯★★★ Salt ('10) (P)				(:20) ✯★★★ Free Guy ('21) Ryan Reynolds.						700Club
FX	40	28	(5:00) ✯ Incredible Hulk			✯★★★ Guardians of the Galaxy ('14)					Shogun (N)		Movie
HBO	201	17	Real, Bill Maher		✯★★★ Gran Torino ('08)				✯ The Lionheart ('23) (P)		(:50) The Regime		
MAX	270	73	✯ How to Talk to Girls at Parties				✯ She's Out of My League		(:45) ✯★ I Love You, Beth Cooper				
NEWSNTN	20	20	The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)		Cuomo
PARMT	35	41	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	✯★★★ Ocean's Eleven ('01)				✯ Ocean's Twelve		
SHOW	221	16	✯★★ Beau Is Afraid ('23) Joaquin Phoenix.						✯★★★ The Machinist		(:45) ✯ Whale		
TMC	233	74	Movie	(:35) ✯ Hands Up ('21)			✯ The Forgiven ('17)				✯ Sniper: White Raven		
TNT	27	43	(4:30) ✯ Angel H...		Tip-Off	NBA Basketball					NBA Basketball		
USA	26	33	Law-SVU		Law-SVU		WWE NXT (N) (Live)				(:10) McBee		Law-S..

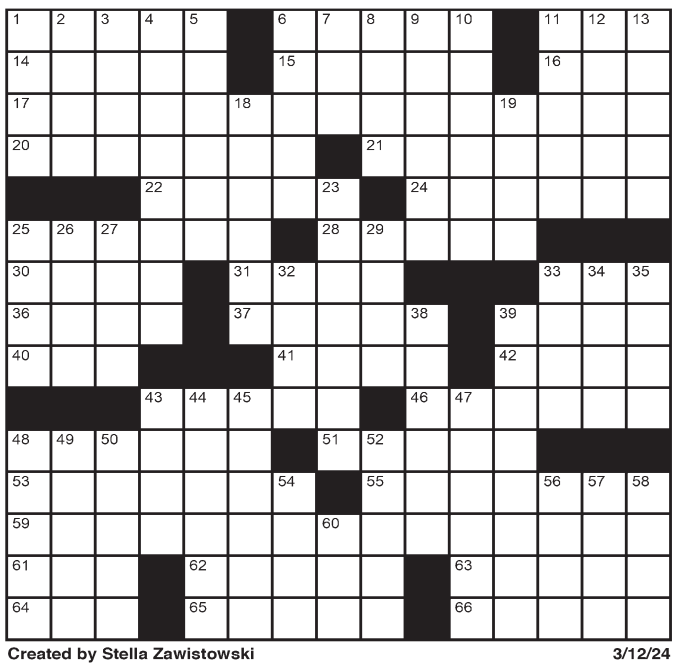
WEDNESDAY EVENING

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Chicago Med		Chicago Fire		Chicago P.D.		WAV..
4 WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	Survivor (N)			Amaz. Race (N) (SP)			CBS4..
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Chicago Med		Chicago Fire		Chicago P.D.		News
8 WISH	12		News (N)		Inside..	ET (N)	Wild Cards (N)		Family Law (N)		News (N)		News
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	Conners	NotDe..	Abbott	Abbott	Judge (N)		News
11 WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	Conners	NotDe..	Abbott	Abbott	Judge (N)		News
15 WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	NewsHour (N)		Nature		Inside the (N)		Inside the (N)		BBCN..
19 WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Masked (N)		Animal	Family..	FOX19 (N)		FOX19
32 WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	Survivor (N)			Amaz. Race (N) (SP)			News
34 WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	House..	Sheldon	BigBa..	Wild Cards (N)		Family Law (N)		BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..
41 WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Masked (N)		Animal	Family..	News (N) (Live)		News
A&E	28	36	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Court..	Booked (N)		Court..
AMC	29	26	(5:00) ✯★★ Lethal Weapon 4 ('98)				✯★★★ Moneyball ('11) Jonah Hill, Brad Pitt.						Movie
COM	45	59	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	DailyS..
DISC	31	38	Expedition X		Expedition X		Expedition X		Expedition (N)		Ghost Adv. (N)		Expedi..
DISN	25	29	Hamst..	Hamst..	Big City	Big City	Hailey	Hailey	Marvel..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Bunk'd
ESPN	32	44	SportCtr (N)		NBA	Basketball Denver Nuggets at Miami Heat					NBA Basketball		
FREE	18	40	(4:30) ✯ Pete's Dr...		✯★★★ Inside Out ('15)				✯★★★ The Princess and the Frog				700Club
FX	40	28	(3:30) ✯ Eternals		✯★★★ Black Widow ('21) Scarlett Johansson.						Feud (N) (SF)		Feud
HBO	201	17	(5:25) ✯ Definitel...		(:20) Enthusiasm		✯★★★ Priscilla ('23)				Regime	(:45) ✯ Date Night	
MAX	270	73	(:20) ✯★★ XXX: State of the Union				✯ House at the End of th...		(:40) ✯★★ You're Next				Movie
NEWSNTN	20	20	The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)		Cuomo
PARMT	35	41	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	✯★★★ The Town ('10) Rebecca Hall, Ben Affleck.						Movie
SHOW	221	16	Movie	(:25) ✯ The Good Girl			✯★★ Home Again ('17)		(:40) ✯★★★★ Titanic ('97)				
TMC	233	74	(:20) ✯★★ Chloe ('09)				✯★★ The Stepfather ('09)		(:45) ✯★★★ The Machinist ('04) (P)				
TNT	27	43	Lucifer		NHL o..	NHL Hockey					NHL Hockey		
USA	26	33	(5:00) College Basketball		College Basketball					Law-SVU		Law-SVU	

THURSDAY EVENING

	Jefferson Switzerland	Trimble/ Carroll	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
3 WAVE	6	2	WAV..	NBCN..	WAV..	News	Law (N)		Law-SVU (N)		Law-Crime (N)		WAV..
4 WTTV	4		CBS4..	CBSN..	BigBa..	Sheldon	Sheldon	Ghosts	So Help Me (N)		Elsbeth		CBS4..
5 WLWT	2		News	NBCN..	WLWT	Hollyw..	Law (N)		Law-SVU (N)		Law-Crime (N)		News
8 WISH	12		News (N)		ZoneE..	ET (N)	Conners	Conners	Son of a	Childr..	News (N)		News
9 WCPO	23		News	World..	News	Extra	9-1-1 (N) (SP)		Anatomy (SP)		Station 19 (SP)		News
11 WHAS	11	4	News	World..	ET (N)	Inside..	9-1-1 (N) (SP)		Anatomy (SP)		Station 19 (SP)		News
15 WKPC	13		Ameri..	Edition	NewsHour (N)		Antiques		Doc Martin		Father Brown		BBCN..
19 WXIX	10		FOX19	FOX19	Wheel	Jeopar..	Next Level (N)		Farmer (N)		FOX19 (N)		FOX19
32 WLKY	5	5	News	CBSN..	Wheel	Jeopar..	Sheldon	Ghosts	So Help Me (N)		Elsbeth		News
34 WBKI	7	7	Neighb..	House..	Sheldon	BigBa..	Conners	Conners	Son of a	Childr..	BigBa..	Sheldon	LastM..
41 WDRB	8	9	News	News	FamFe..	FamFe..	Next Level (N)		Farmer (N)		News (N)		News
A&E	28	36	The First 48		The First 48		The First (N)		The Stand (N)		(:05) Undercover		First48
AMC	29	26	(5:00) ✯★★★ Moneyball ('11)				✯★★★ Mission: Impossible -- Ghost Protocol ('11)						Movie
COM	45	59	Office	Office	Office	Office	(:20) The Office		Office	Office	Office	Office	DailyS..
DISC	31	38	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!	Caught!
DISN	25	29	Hamst..	Hamst..	Big City	Big City	Hailey	Hailey	Marvel..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Ladyb..	Jessie
ESPN	32	44	SportCtr (N)		College Basketball				Basket..	College Basketball			
FREE	18	40	✯★★ Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again					✯★★ Footloose ('84) Kevin Bacon.					700Club
FX	40	28	(5:30) ✯ Captain America: First Av...				✯★★★ Captain America: The Winter Soldier ('14)						Movie
HBO	201	17	(:10) ✯ The Lionheart ('23)				Enthus..	✯ Aquaman & the Lost Kingdom			(:45) The Regime		
MAX	270	73	(5:50) ✯ Kingsman: Secret Service				✯★★ Barbershop ('02)			✯ Barbershop 2: Back in Business			
NEWSNTN	20	20	The Hill (N)		On Balance (N)		Cuomo (N)		Dan Abrams		Banfield (N)		Cuomo
PARMT	35	41	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	TwoM..	✯★★ The Mummy ('99) Brendan Fraser.						Movie
SHOW	221	16	✯★★★ Insomnia ('02) Al Pacino.				✯★★ Shooter ('07)				(:05) ✯ Godfather, Part II		
TMC	233	74	Movie	✯ Rhapsody of Love ('21)			✯★★ The DUFF ('15)			(:45) ✯ The Crusades ('23)			
TNT	27	43	(5:00) ✯ Blade II		Tip-Off	Basketball Phoenix Suns at Boston Celtics					NBA Basketball		
USA	26	33	(5:00) College Basketball			College Basketball				✯★★★ Wanted ('08)			

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

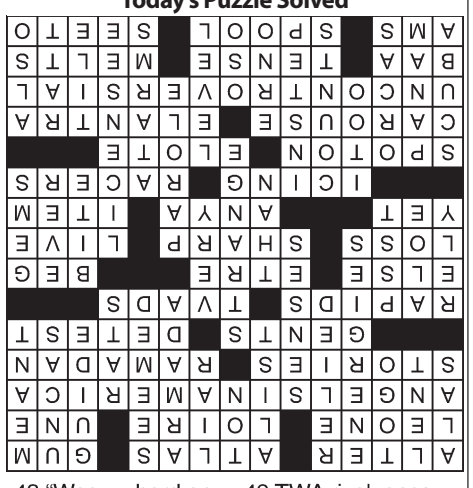


Created by Stella Zawistowski 3/12/24

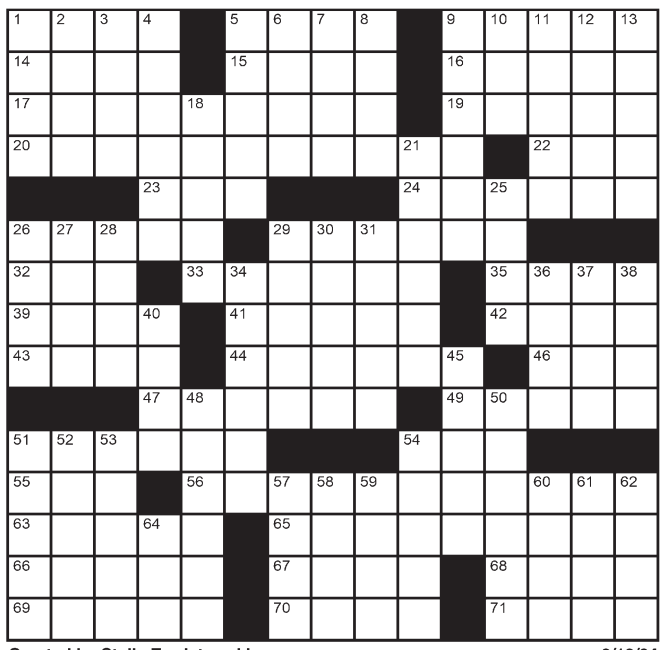
ACROSS
1 Shorten, say
6 Map book
11 Often-minty mouthful
14 Sierra __
15 River through Nantes
16 "A" in French
17 1993 Tony Kushner play: 3 wds.
20 Tales
21 Month of fasting for Muslims
22 Mannerly men
24 Hate
25 Rafting location
28 Small-screen promos: 2 wds.
30 "Or __ what?"
31 French "to be"
33 Plead earnestly
36 Win's opposite
37 Flat's opposite
39 "__ and learn"
40 To date
41 Actress Taylor-Joy
42 Celebrity couple
43 Sweet cake coating
46 Indy 500 competitors
48 Exactly right: 2 wds.
51 Street snack topped with cotija
53 Paint the town red
55 Hyundai compact
59 Accepted by all
61 Sheep sound
62 On edge
63 Liquefies
64 Morning hrs.
65 Unit of thread
66 Get done: 2 wds.

DOWN
1 "Oh noes!"
2 Pre-Easter season
3 Not "for here," as food: 2 wds.
4 Driving forces
5 Depended (on)
6 Most-desired celebs
7 Huge amount
8 Untrustworthy one
9 Fleet of warships
10 Came across as
11 Tour leader
12 "The Last of the Mohicans" character
13 Denoted
18 Picks up on
19 Mafia snitches
23 Weird
25 Trust, with "on"
26 Lotion ingredient
27 Whispered call
29 Extremely
32 Comparison word
33 Snake's attack
34 At any time
35 Precious stones
38 Early release
39 Permit holder
43 "Was __ hard on him?": 2 wds.
44 European noblemen
45 Shoe section
47 Sergeant-__ (order-keeping official): 2 wds.
48 Underwater tank
49 TWA rival, once
50 Marine predators
52 Flat
54 Cubemaker Rubik
56 Scrabble piece
57 "Out of the Cellar" band
58 As well
60 Spanish bear

Today's Puzzle Solved



THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski



Created by Stella Zawistowski 3/13/24

ACROSS
1 High cards
5 Colored eye part
9 Kind of oil
14 Garden entrance
15 Pixar clownfish
16 Masterless samurai
17 Stretched out
19 Place setting part
20 Skip out on a bill: 3 wds.
22 Cooking spray brand
23 Actor's signal
24 Not wholly
26 Protective head cover
29 Jarhead
32 Tight __ drum
33 Emergency allergy treatment
35 Upper limbs
39 Have a lease
41 Speak in public
42 Business agreement
43 Competitive advantage
44 Mexican beer brand
46 Alias abbr.
47 Pink pencil part
49 Bowling venue
51 Berates, at a ballpark: 2 wds.
54 Con's opponent
55 Belonging to us
56 Lions lover, say: 2 wds.
63 Deep unease
65 Gumdrop Mountain board game
66 Weighing device
67 Mine vehicle
68 "At Last" singer James
69 Quartet voice
70 Samoa's capital
71 Writing table

DOWN
1 Got older
2 LA locale
3 Prince Harry's alma mater
4 Iroquois League people
5 Silly
6 Not working: Abbr.
7 Chatted online
8 Fizzy drink
9 Oliver Twist, e.g.
10 Texter's "funny!"
11 Not appropriate
12 Essential
13 "Bitter" foe
18 Dashboard device
21 Upright piano
25 Enjoy a novel
26 Have the gumption
27 Like much Ebay merch
28 Tolled
29 Boggy areas
30 With speed
31 Fix, as a driveway
34 Tater Tot makeup
36 Not fake
37 Create
38 Do in, as a dragon
40 Casual tops
45 Ahead of time
48 Roof support
50 Spent a lazy day
51 Brag
52 1/16 of a pound
53 Church instrument
54 Lakshmi of "Top Chef"
57 Eight: Prefix
58 Rain protection
59 __ Brith
60 Lot in life
61 Picnic invaders
62 Minn. neighbor
64 __-mo replay

Today's Puzzle Solved

A demanding gram wants to lay down law

Dear Amy: When our son visits us with his teenage daughter, she totally trashes her room during her stay.

As the grandmother and host, can I demand that she keep her room in some semblance of order?

— Demanding Gram

AMY DICKINSON
ASK AMY

Dear Gram: It's your home, and you can issue demands with abandon.

But your son should work with his daughter to teach her how to be a better guest.

For now, I suggest that you approach this more like a grandmother and less like a drill sergeant.

First, this caveat. I don't know if you have raised any daughters, but teenage girls are notoriously messy. (I'm having flashbacks just thinking about it.) Some tolerance and grandmotherly indulgence is called for.

Handle this with clarity and humor. Tell the teen, "This is your room while you're here, and I want you to feel cozy, comfortable and at home. But it's my room the rest of the time, so can you do me a favor and keep it tidier? I love looking in and seeing you in this space. But I don't want my head to explode. Imagine the mess!" Ask her to follow one or two easy-to-follow rules, such as "no food in your room," or "no wet towels on the floor."

Make sure there are some photos of her in the room. This (and other decorative touches) might inspire her to respect the space a little more.

You could also teach her some basic life skills while she is with you. If she is with you for more than a week, ask her to help you to change her bed, launder the linens and remake it.

Before they depart, you could ask her and her father to help you to "strip" the beds (hers and her dad's), because that's what thoughtful guests do (or offer to do) at the end of their stay.

Overall, even with my own adult daughters, I find it less stressful to just keep their bedroom doors closed during their visits home.

DNA discovery leads to awkward reality

Dear Amy: I recently completed genetic testing and learned that my brother and I are half-siblings. We have the same mother, but we do not have the same father.

Fortunately, my mother (who is in her late 80s) is still living, so I asked her about our fathers.

She said that my dad was sterile, so she and my dad used IVF to have my brother and me.

I was not too surprised to learn that my brother and I are only half-siblings because we were never that close.

The issue is my mom doesn't want me to tell my brother. She is embarrassed and doesn't want anyone to know. My brother has health issues, and I sometimes go to doctor appointments with him.

He continues to tell the doctors things like, "My dad had heart issues."

I find it very hard to not say anything.

My concern is the doctors might miss something if they rely on family history.

I really think my brother needs to know. Our mother is also in ill health, and I anticipate losing her in the next year or so. Should I wait until she passes to tell him? Should I never tell him?

— Unsure

AMY DICKINSON
ASK AMY

Dear Unsure: You don't say how you know that you and your brother have different biological fathers — other than the fact that you don't feel connected to him.

Perhaps your mother filled in some details that you haven't included here, but if she and your father used IVF to conceive both of you, you should consider the possibility that they used the same male donor for both conceptions. If so, you and your brother would share DNA from both sides of the family.

Your mother seems to have weathered this disclosure, and while she says she doesn't want anyone to know about this, you do know and your brother should know, too.

He has a human right to know about his own DNA. He also has health issues, where knowing about his parentage could make an important difference.

You should have a serious talk with your mother.

Thank her for working so hard to bring you into the world, and for confirming this information for you.

Tell her that your brother has a right to know about his DNA, and offer to tell him either on your own, or alongside her.

Give her choices: "I'll tell him, or I'll be here with you when you tell him. I'll help you write a letter to him or will be on a phone call with you to support you. But he needs to be told."

SUDOKU

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	4						2	7
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7	2	6	9	8	5	3	4	1
3	9	8	2	1	4	6	9	5
2	8	9	6	4	1	7	5	3
5	6	3	8	2	7	1	9	4
4	1	7	2	8	3	9	6	5
6	8	2	9	3	5	7	1	4
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SUDOKU

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8		4	6		1	3		9
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6		9	5					
2							7	6

2	8	1	3	4	9	6	7	5
6	4	9	5	1	7	2	8	3
3	5	7	8	6	2	1	9	4
1	3	5	9	8	4	6	2	7
8	2	4	6	7	1	3	5	9
7	9	6	2	5	3	4	1	8
9	6	3	7	2	5	8	4	1
4	7	2	1	3	8	9	6	5
5	1	8	4	9	6	7	3	2

ASTROLOGY

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — It can be surprising when you must introduce yourself if think you should need no introduction. You may have proven yourself as the person who'll fix it. Try to build the reputation of being the best in the business.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Conditions are likely right to set your plans in motion. Be meticulous with all the most important details. Enthusiasm and desire can help a project to succeed, but any critical mistakes will still cause trouble.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Something could seem like a confusing mess until you carefully review all the relevant components. Then it can all be assembled relatively easily. Group gatherings can be like that too – see if you can put people together.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — When you want to change something, continue to move in the right direction until it sticks. To fit into a new space, you may need to put yourself into a different mindset. Consider expanding your comfort zone.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — It's never so dark that all light is absent, and the bright side isn't always obvious. What you may not realize is the very act of looking for the bright side can make everything better. It is you who shines your own light.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Often, things that are popular are much the same. When you venture out on your own, don't be just another copycat. Find your own unique niche, embrace your authenticity, and be the best you that you can be.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — The pitfalls and confusion which can come with new projects may be easier to overcome if you remain calm and keep your head. You likely know your subject so face any incoming challenges with style and grace.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — The first day of any new thing can be terrifying when you don't know the ropes Once you have time to learn your way around, you can move past early challenges. Newbie insecurities will go away as you build confidence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Something may be as demanding as a new baby. You can be continually exhausted, up all night looking for answers, and cleaning up messes you didn't make. Hopefully it can also be equally as rewarding.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Teamwork can fill in missing pieces that you don't even realize are missing. No matter how talented you are, you may need another set of eyes or extra sets of hands. Working together, the whole team can win.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — People may be unexpectedly kind and you can pay the kindness forward. You should let others know how much you appreciate them. Think about how the ripple effect of a simple gesture can spread across the world.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Thinking that a relationship needs to meet cute before it can last could complicate something special. Real life doesn't always look like the movies. It's the timing, not the cute story, that will impact the relationship's outcome.

ASTROLOGY

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — It may be time to consider whether you're jumping through too many hoops and working too hard for outer validation. No matter how many checks you pick up, some people won't be won over. Focus on building inner confidence.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — The reputation you've developed can be a crucial factor in any new project or business. People want to know who they'll be dealing with. A first impression isn't enough for everyone; show them the real you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Some people may have an opinion on how you should run your life. Part of maturity and clarity is knowing when to take that advice and when you should do what you think is right. Make your own best decision.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — When the pieces add up to something more than originally expected, that's synchronicity. When you're working with others, find ways to multiply your impact. Expand your network to find more ways to grow.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — One difference between painting a wall and a painting portrait is in the level of detail. You know what you need to see and what's not important; don't let anyone tell you what's is and isn't supposed to matter.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Let environment fuel new creativity. Going out to see new sights may reveal unusual vistas for you to explore. Consider shifting focus and looking at the world with different eyes. Your creations can reflect your growth.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Anything that isn't working in your life has roots which may not be obvious. Always seek out core underlying causes if you want to effectively address an issue. Pay attention to your health and well-being.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Resolutions might be long forgotten but you may still be dealing with the baseline issues that made you make them in the first place. Today could be a good day to start something, just do a bit more than yesterday.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Whatever your chosen medium, you can find ways to reveal your vision to the world. Allowing your dreams to stay hidden won't help you grow or bring them into being. It could be time for you to show off your skills.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Something new on the horizon may become a bucket list item if it offers a totally unique experience. You could be waiting to live more, so start by going out to do that things you've wanted to try forever.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You may feel like everything is a mad dash. Stop to look around, there might be more time and more opportunities ahead than you now know. Pause long enough to realize how many wonderful things are already here.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — The right relationship or situation will feel right, neither too much or too little. Pay attention to what feels like a mismatch, be sure to acknowledge yellow and red flags. A relationship may need nurturing to grow stronger.

Mark Campbell

A worker was busy Sunday assembling and installing the new water slide at Madison's Crystal Beach Aquatic Park. Contractors are putting some of the finishing touches on the numerous features at the $7.2 million water park ahead of the proposed May opening. The pool was filled with water late last week for pressure and leak testsbut will then be drained for finish finish and painting of the basin.

Rotating lifeguard stations to eliminate swimming breaks at Crystal Beach

BY BOB DEMAREE

The practice of forcing all swimmers out of the pool for 15-minute breaks will be over when Crystal Beach Aquatic Park opens in late May.

Parks Director Scott Klein said at last week's Parks Board meeting that the plan is to rotate lifeguards in stations to allow them to take breaks without having to mandate that swimmer get out of the water.

"The pool is designed for seven lifeguards," Klein said, and by having 10 to 12 lifeguards working daily, there should always be enough lifeguards on duty to allow continued use of the pool.

"What happened in the past is the pool would be open for 45 minutes, then they'd blow a whistle and everybody got out of the pool for a 15-minute break," said Klein. "We're going to have enough lifeguards on duty to rotate lifeguards so the pool will stay open the full time. We won't be having a 15-minute break every hour. Lifeguards will rotate to their different stations, get break time when it's time for them to go to the break station. All will be in a different spot. Everybody will be cross trained on every station."

Klein also announced that Shelly Anderson-Hamilton, swim coach and instructor at Southwestern Jefferson County School Corporation the past 40 years, has been hired as pool manager with Katie Royce and Andie Royce serving as assistants. He added that Whitney Burdzilauskas, the Parks Department's athletic program manager, has a strong background in pools and aquatics, and "will be overseeing that group of people for operating the pool. So, we're pretty excited about that. We have got a really good talented group for operating the pool."

Klein said he is in the process of purchasing equipment and furniture for Crystal Beach that includes lifeguard towers, lounge chairs and operational items needed for the pool. "There's a lot going on with Crystal Beach," he said, on preparations to reopen the pool after undergoing a total replacement that caused a pool closure the last two summers. "There are a lot of layers to the onion. I'm spending most of my time on Crystal Beach right now."

The $7.2 million Crystal Beach Aquatic Center is due to be completed by May 24.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SPEAKERS

Hanover College
Science Center, Room 137
Tuesday, March 12 — 7 p.m.

Travis Rieder will return to the Hanover College campus to discuss his upcoming book, "Catastrophe Ethics: How to Choose Well in a World of Tough Choices" that explores how everyday decisions may (or may not) affect larger issues and whether "doing the right thing" is enough amid today's often complex challenges. Rieder, a 2004 Hanover College graduate, is an associate research professor at Johns Hopkins' Berman Institute of Bioethics and serves as director of the Master of Bioethics degree program.The event is free and open to the public.

LUNCHEONS

Lenten Lunch Service
St. John's United Church of Christ
406 East Street, Madison

Wednesday, March 13 — Noon

Lenten Lunch Services are being held each Wednesday sponsored by the Greater Madison Ministerial Association with a local church hosting a devotion from a visiting pastor with a light lunch. Luke Richards, pastor of Hanover United Methodist Church, is preaching this week.

Fish Fry & Taco Sale
St. John the Evangelist Church
507 Fifth Street, Carrollton
Friday, March 15 — 4:30-7 p.m.

Fried fish and tacos — dine-in or carry-out at the church.

MUSIC

Night of Jazz
Madison Consolidated High School Choir and Band
MCHS Cafeteria
743 Clifty Drive, Madison
Tuesday, March 12 — 7 p.m.

Performance by the MCHS choir and band that includes desserts. Admission $10 cash only. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Commonwealth Brass Band
Opal E. Sherman Auditorium
Madison Consolidated High School
743 Clifty Drive, Madison
Sunday, March 17 — 3 p.m.

Established in 1989 and conducted by Jerry Amend, this ensemble from New Albany, plays unique instruments found in British brass bands. The program will be dedicated to the memory of musician and former band director Mark Johnson who died last year. The event is free and sponsored by Madison Performing Arts Foundation.

FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

Salvation Army Food Bank
331 East Main St., Madison
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
Noon-1 p.m.

A food giveaway at the red door on east side of building. Bring your own bags. For more information, call 812-265-2157.

House of Hope Food Pantry
100 East Second St., Madison
Tuesdays — 5-7 p.m.
Fridays — 9-11 a.m.

A food giveaway and distribution at the Jefferson County House of Hope Food Pantry in downtown Madison. Please arrive at the pantry 15 minutes prior to closing to be served.

CLOTHING DISTRIBUTIONS

Jesus Clothes Closet
Trinity Methodist Church, Madison
Mondays — 9-11 a.m.

Jesus Clothes Closet at Trinity Methodist Church, 412 W. Main St., will distribute free clothing for those in need each Monday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. For info call 812-866-4843.

SENIOR EVENTS

Madison Senior Citizens Center
208 West Main Street
Senior Meals

Lifetime Resources will be providing congregate meals at the Madison Senior Center on Tuesday and Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meals are free for anyone over age 60 with a suggested donation of $6. Meals are $6 for anyone under age 60.

Game Days

The Madison Senior Citizens Center hosts weekly card days and Bingo at the Senior Citizens Center in downtown Madison. The schedule includes Euchre on Mondays and Thursdays from noon until 10 games are completed and Bingo on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The games are free and open to senior citizens.

Hanover Senior Citizens Center
Exercising

The Hanover Senior Citizens Program is offering free exercising at the Hanover Park Community Center on Mondays and Thursdays at 10 a.m.

Lunch

The Hanover Senior Citizens Program is serving lunch at noon on Fridays at the Hanover Park Community Center. Cost is $5 and RSVP is required by calling 812-498-2894.

No limit on youth to participate free in Madison baseball, softball

BY BOB DEMAREE

Registration will be free for Madison Parks Department youth baseball and softball this summer, and Madison Parks and Recreation Department will not limit the number of youths who can participate and take advantage of that savings.

The no-cost youth baseball and softball programs are made possible by a $10,000 Arvin Sango sponsorship that Parks Director Scott Klein explained at last week's Parks Board meeting covers registration fees, T-shirts, equipment expenses, program support personnel and facility maintenance.

"It is fantastic what Arvin Sango is doing for the kids of our community," said Parks Board member David Hertz, who asked, "How many kids does $10,000 pay for?"

And Klein's response was that the sponsorship was designed so that no limits will be imposed on the number who can participate for free.

He explained that with registration at $10 per person and then adding the cost for shirts and hats, they estimated with 400 participants at $20 each, that would amount to $8,000. But he also said the $10,000 will support the hiring umpires, scorekeepers, public announcers, concession workers and more.

Arvin Sango's donation "is really supporting the whole entire program. By donating $10,000, it supports the entire activity itself, not just registration fees," Klein said. "So, if we get 500 participants, even better, it's not going to turn us upside down. Everybody is covered. We're not putting a limit on applicants. We're not putting a limit of the size of the teams. It's all going to be dependent on citizens come out and register and sign up, and make it a great season for us."

While giving a report at Madison City Council last week, Klein did express some concern that more registrations were not received after the announcement that fees were being waived thanks to the donation.

"I'm a little anxious that we didn't get for sign up after the Arvin Sango announcement," Klein told the council, adding that there is still time for families to enroll their children.

Madison City Councilman Josh Wilber asked Klein if he's been able to identify any trends in youth sports involvement.

Klein said that could actually be part of the issue with lower enrollment because youth sports appears to be trending away from sports like baseball and softball and more toward soccer and football.

Klein noted that 10 or more years ago "baseball was king" among the summer sports but "soccer and football are more popular now" and while youth sports used to be predominately local league play the trend now is for more regional competition where teams play teams in other cities.

"I think we're going to have to start thinking more regionally," Klein noted.

Klein said the T-ball program will now be run by the Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson County. The lowest level for the Madison Parks and Recreation Department will be youth baseball instructional league for ages 5-7 that Klein said will focus more on fundamentals than competition.

He said practices for the youth leagues will start in April at the Rucker Sports Complex.

In other business:

- Klein said design work and master planning is being finalized for Sunrise Golf Course, Rucker Sports Complex, Brown Gym and John Paul Park. He anticipates scheduling an open house in April for public input.
- Board president Carla Krebs said she is on the committee that's working towards restoration of John Paul Park, a project begun 20 years ago by Jill Keller through the John Paul chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. "We're trying to stay true to the original plans with Jill Keller," who died 10 years ago, said Krebs. "I have a real passion with this personally. We want to try keep it close to what her vision was because she had such a vision for John Paul Park. Our fundraising is the next big step."
- After receiving a donation from the 2022 Cookie Caper fundraiser during the Nights Before Christmas Tour of Homes for a shade structure at Hargan Matthews Park, Klein said that project is now moving forward. He expects it to be installed in time for this summer. "A big thank you to Marci (Jones) and the people with the Cookie Caper for making that donation for Hargan Matthews Park."
- Klein said so far this year through February Sunrise Golf Course has a $1,500 operating deficit with revenue just shy of $35,000 and expenses slightly over $36,000. However, he said the first weekend in March was a good one with close to $4,400 in sales Sunday, March 3. Also, he expects revenue to increase when annual passes begin to be purchased.

Finishing touches put on Hanover ball fields as new season looms near

BY BOB DEMAREE

With a new season of baseball and softball just a couple of months away, Hanover Community Park is on the verge of completing improvements to the park's ball fields.

League Director Scott Davidson provided an update at Tuesday's meeting of the Hanover Park Board, noting that opening day for Hanover's baseball and softball is scheduled for May 20 with practices beginning April 15.

"It's all coming together," said Davidson.

Sixty-foot light poles are due to be installed on Field 2 in the next couple of weeks, along with making adjustments in lighting throughout the park. There also is some electrical work and water and sewer hookups left to complete.

Hanover Council member Kenny Garrett said ball field buildings are nearing completion but still need handicap accessible handrails in restrooms, some painting and relocation of light switches.

Other work to be completed includes paving the park's trails and there are plans in the near future to construct a storage/restroom facility at the amphitheater in the park.

Currently 115 youths are signed up for Hanover's baseball and softball leagues, which is ahead of pace from last year at this time. Davidson said 108 had signed up through February, an increase over last year when 69 were registered at that point.

"We're well on our way to 300 plus kids," he noted.

An introduction to T-ball program is being added for 3- and 4-year-olds. Also, instruction T-ball is returning for 5- and 6-year-olds.

Last month, the town council approved an increase in sponsorship fees with banner sponsorships and team sponsorship each increasing to $250 (previously both were $200), and sponsorships combined for banner and team to $400 (previously $300). Despite the rate increase, Davidson said there has been success in sponsorships for the 2024 season. So far, there are 22 team sponsors and 19 banner sponsors with 15 of those being combos. He also said three back-stop banners have been sold at $500 each.

Davidson noted that concession sales reported $19,300 in total revenue last year but expenses were $23,000, resulting in a deficit in that area. He noted that prices were probably too low in 2023 and by increasing them "I promise we'll do better" with the concessions this year.

The park's annual Easter Egg hunt at Hanover Community Park will be at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 23.

HOME

FROM **PAGE B1**

Smith appeared to hurt his right ankle on a non-contact play. He went to the locker room but returned 75 seconds later as the Boilermakers made it 44-33 at the half.

Edey and Loyer remained on the floor without apparent difficulty in the second half as the Badgers twice cut the deficit to four. But the Boilermakers answered with 3-pointers each time, first by Smith and then by Caleb Furst.

"You can tell he loves the game, you can tell he respects the game," forward Mason Gillis said when asked about Edey. "The people around know what he does. He looks out for everybody. He's a good guy in the gym. I don't think we could ask for a better national player of the year."

BIG PICTURE

Wisconsin: The Badgers head into this week's Big Ten Tournament as the league's mystery team. They were ranked most of the season and climbed into the top 10 before losing four straight. They've now lost eight of 11.

Purdue: It's time for the Boilermakers to focus on unfinished business following last year's stunning first-round NCAA Tournament exit. Sure, there's a conference tourney still ahead and the possibility of reclaiming the No. 1 ranking.

SERIES

FROM **PAGE B1**

Hanover then lost 13-4 in five innings in the second game. Sophie Markowizc was 2-for-3 with a triple and two RBIs and Carson Kruse had a double and an RBI for the Panthers. Beaman started and suffered the loss.

Hanover home opener against Asbury on Saturday was canceled by rain.

The Panthers, now 3-9 on the season, compete in the Pioneer Classic at Transylvania on Saturday. Hanover will take on Wisconsin-Stout and Adrian on Saturday and Asbury and Trine on Sunday.

GOLFERS COMPETE IN ALABAMA

Hanover men's and women's golf competed in the Alabama Invasion at Cherokee Ridge Golf Club in Union Grove, Alabama, over the weekend.

The women shot a 733 (361-372) to tie for fourth in the six-team event. Hailey Hansen shot a 177 (87-90) to place eighth for Hanover, Mallory Mortl tied for ninth with a 178 (88-90), Taylor Caldwell was 18th with a 186 (90-96), Kambrie Cooper was 24th with a 192 (96-96) and Madelyn Arrenholz was 33rd with a 218 (110-108). Hanover's men placed ninth out of 10 teams with a 681 (339-342). Cole Ruttinger tied for 11th with a 159 (78-81), Jacob Knapp tied for 22nd with a 164 (81-83), Bing Wilson tied for 52nd with a 181 (89-92), Alexis Wright tied for 54th with a 182 (96-86), Griffen Reynolds tied for 56th with a 183 (91-92), and Griffin Mann was 59th with a 189 (95-94).

Hanover's men next compete at Rose-Hulman on Saturday while the women return to action on April 5 at Lima, Ohio.

MEN'S TENNIS LOSES AT CENTRE

Hanover men's tennis suffered an 8-1 loss at Centre on Saturday.

Hanover's lone win came at No. 1 doubles where Joey Keal and Charley Williams teamed up for an 8-5 win.

Hanover, now 4-3 on the season, had its match at Midway on Wednesday canceled. The Panthers return to action on Saturday at Rose-Hulman.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE FALLS TO TRINE

Hanover women's lacrosse suffered a 19-4 loss at home to Trine on Saturday.

Maggie Donovan, Taylor McNally-Henriksen, Masi McNally-Henriksen and Natalie Mullin each had goals for the Panthers. Marissa Bardo had six saves. Hanover, now 2-5 on the season, travels to Wittenberg on Saturday and hosts Bethany on Sunday.

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STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON
SS:
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY
ESTATE DOCKET 39C01-2403-EU-000017
IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF
DAVID E. FURNISH, DECEASED.
DEVON M. SHARPE, Jenner, Pattison & Sharpe,
307 Jefferson Street, Madison, IN 47250; (812) 265-5132

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INDIANA
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DAVID E. FURNISH, DECEASED.
Notice is hereby given that Sherri L. Furnish was, on the 4 day of March , 2024, appointed personal representative of the estate of David E. Furnish, deceased, who died on the 13th day of April, 2020.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Madison, Indiana, this March 4, 2024.
/s/ Tabatha Eblen
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, IN
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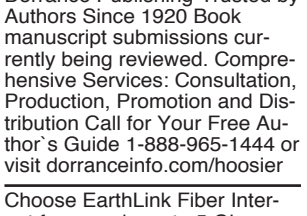

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Mets closer Díaz set for spring debut after freak WBC injury

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York Mets closer Edwin Díaz is set to appear in a game for the first time since tearing a patellar tendon during the 2023 World Baseball Classic.

The two-time All-Star is expected to be the first reliever after starter Tylor Megill, and the right-hander will have a 20-pitch limit when the Mets face Miami in spring training in Port St. Lucie, Florida, on Monday night.

"Excited for the boys, for the whole team, for himself," manager Carlos Mendoza said Sunday. "The fact that he gets to pitch in a major league game for the first time after, you know, a long year of rehab and all that, I think is important for all of us."

Díaz injured his right knee celebrating with teammates after closing out Puerto Rico's 5-2 victory over the Dominican Republic last March.

The injury was the first of many for the Mets in 2023, leading the club to unload Cy Young Award winners Justin Verlander and Max Scherzer at the trade deadline before manager Buck Showalter was fired a year after New York made the playoffs as a wild card. The 29-year-old Díaz was an All-Star for the Mets in 2022, recording 32 saves and having a 1.31 ERA. Of the 186 outs Díaz recorded that year, 118 were on strikeouts.

Díaz came to New York in a trade after his first All-Star season with Seattle in 2018.

BURNES' OPENING DAY NOD

Corbin Burnes will be the opening day starter for the Baltimore Orioles, as expected, after the All-Star right-hander was acquired from Milwaukee in a trade last month.

Manager Brandon Hyde made the obvious official with the announcement Sunday.

"A real honor for me to let him know," Hyde told reporters in Florida. "We've been talking about it for a while, and we're real excited to watch him pitch on opening day."

The Orioles made the move for an ace coming off an American League-best 101 wins last season before they were swept by the eventual World Series champion Texas Rangers in the AL Division Series.

It's the third consecutive opening day start for the 29-year-old Burnes, who got the nod the past two seasons with the Brewers.

"It's not something to be taken for granted," Hyde said. "It's a really cool moment for anybody to be able to have that honor. I know he's very appreciative."

DEALS DONE

The Seattle Mariners have signed reliever Ryne Stanek to a one-year contract, and the minor league deals are official for outfielder Eddie Rosario with Washington and first baseman Joey Votto with Toronto.

Stanek brings plenty of postseason experience to the Mariners, who are trying to get back to the playoffs after losing the AL Division Series to Houston in 2022, when the Astros beat Philadelphia in the World Series.

The 32-year-old right-hander has 23 postseason appearances, all but two of them with Houston the past three seasons. He was 3-1 with a 4.09 ERA in the regular season last year after going 2-1 with a 1.15 ERA in 2022. It was the lowest ERA in Houston history for a pitcher with at least 50 innings.

Stanek spent his first three seasons with Tampa Bay and was one of the first relievers used as an opener. His 56 starts of two or fewer innings are the most in major league history.

The 32-year-old Rosario is a left-handed hitter who has played nine seasons in the majors with the Minnesota Twins, Cleveland Indians and Atlanta Braves.

Rosario was the NL Championship Series MVP during Atlanta's run to the 2021 World Series title, but the club declined a $9 million option for this season.

The 40-year-old Votto is joining his hometown team in Canada after spending all 17 of his previous big league seasons in Cincinnati. The 2010 NL MVP became a free agent last fall at the end of a $251.5 million, 12-year contract with the Reds.

"I feel like a boy. I feel like a kid," Votto told reporters in Florida. "I think this goes back to the 15-year-old version of me who just wanted to make it, who fell in love with the sport and with competition, with being my best self. All of the achievements along the way are nice, but this is still the core of me."

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